

Los Angeles Police  
Protective League

# The Blue Line

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1308 West 8th  
Los Angeles, Cal



## FORTIETH ANNUAL MEDAL OF VALOR



Photo by Dennis P. Zine



### **Eighteen Los Angeles Police Officers Receive Medal of Valor**

**O**n Wednesday, September 15, 1999, at 11:00 a.m., the Los Angeles Police Department, in conjunction with the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce, sponsored the 1999 Medal of Valor Award Ceremony held at The Regal Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

Since 1925, the Medal of Valor Award has been presented to men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department who have distinguished themselves by acts of heroism and bravery above and beyond the normal demands of police service. The Medal of

Valor is the highest award the Department bestows upon its officers.

Actor Tony Danza narrated the heroic incidents while Chief Parks decorated the 1999 recipients with the Medal of Valor. More on page 30.





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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

TED HUNT

### Preserving Integrity:

#### The Critical Role of the Rank-and-File Officer

There is a series called **Perspectives on Policing**, published jointly by the National Institute of Justice and Harvard University in the late 1980s. One of the best in that series is entitled "Police Accountability and Community Policing," by George L. Kelling, Robert Wasserman and Hubert Williams. Professor Kelling is a very outspoken academic, and is one of the few intellectuals who recognize that both management and rank-and-file officers have a role in managing the Department.

Kelling, et al., begin their article by discussing the issues relevant to police integrity and so-called watchdog groups. "Police chiefs continually worry about abuse of authority: brutality; misuse, especially deadly force; over-enforcement of the law; bribery; manufacture of evidence in the name of efficiency or success; failure to apply the law because of personal interests; and discrimination against particular individuals or groups. These issues are grist for the mill of persistent and influential watchdog groups... the media, civil rights groups, and lawyers."

The essay goes on to discuss the paradox between the "command and control" procedures that most police

agencies use to control the behavior of field officers and the reality that true "command and control" by management, may simply be an illusion on the part of management.

Professor Kelling believes that command and control is like a mirage in the mind of management because police agencies require "other mechanisms of control [to] recognize and promote the use of discretion by police officers." Those "other mechanisms" are:

1. Supervision
2. Training
3. Audit Mechanisms
4. Discipline
5. Rewards
6. Peer Control

In other words, it takes more than one mechanism to ensure that a department runs well and that the agency runs effectively, efficiently, and fulfills its mission.

We as rank-and-file police officers are the only individuals who have control over the "mechanism" of peer control. Kelling emphasizes that peer control "is an important means of achieving accountability." But, by definition, management has little or no impact on Peer Control - unless they use the other mechanisms to influence it.

In the commonly-accepted professions, peer control has always been a vibrant aspect of retaining and maintaining professional integrity. Here's how they explain it. "Although heavy reliance on peer control has been traditional in professions of medicine, law, and science, it has not always ensured the desired quality of performance. However, *when combined with other mechanisms of control*, it will continue to be an important means of maintaining the standards of professional performance for police." (Emphasis added)

So, what does this mean to us? It is really simple. **THE ONE THING THAT EVERY DISHONEST OFFICER SHOULD FEAR, IS AN HONEST OFFICER.**

Peer Control means that we take care of and control our own -- our peers. It means that we clearly state what our standards are and then live up to them. It does not mean that we strut around like a little "Banty Rooster" puffing and piously spouting-off about integrity. It means we know the rules and play by them, and everyone knows, we play by the rules.

It is the added effect of peer control to the other so-called mechanisms, that creates the greatest benefit. "When [Peer Control is] combined with other mechanisms" such as training, supervision, audit mechanisms, discipline and rewards, it has a far greater impact on "maintaining the standards of professional performance for police" -- far greater than any one of the other mechanisms alone.

Right now, our Department is very one dimensional. Management appears to focus only on punishment, which is disguised as discipline. One of the most important issues of the Christopher Commission recommendations was to improve and increase field supervision.

However, talk to a supervisor and a consistent complaint keeps recurring. Supervisors can't supervise because they are too busy investigating personnel complaints. The personnel complaint system as a stand-alone mechanism cannot do it. The total system needs to be balanced. We can help bring balance to the table.

Our Department needs to establish a balance of the mechanisms: supervision, training, audit mechanisms, discipline and rewards and PEER CONTROL. As rank-and-file officers, few of us have control over areas such as training, audits, discipline or rewards. When was the last time you heard of someone getting a commendation (reward)? When was the last time you heard of someone getting a 1.28 (discipline)? The emphasis is obvious.

What we can control is our own actions. We can have a strong influence over the actions of our co-workers. We can do something about helping each other stay out of trouble.

Because we all love this Department so much and we've sacrificed a great deal to create the great image that LAPD has, we are all embarrassed by the so-called corruption scandal. It has caused each of us a great deal of pain and uneasiness.

The officers of Rampart and officers all across this Department have nothing to be ashamed of. Our League has been on the television, radio, and in newspapers setting the record straight. We have been to Rampart to encourage the men and women of that proud Division.

Our message is simple. We are the police union. We have a moral and legal obligation to stand up for our members and we will do exactly that. We have also

continued on page 17

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**TED HUNT, DIRECTOR** *[Signature]* **SEPTEMBER 22, 1999**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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- Item 16. Indicate the date of the issue in which this Statement of Ownership will be published.
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PS Form 3526, September 1998 (Reverse)

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- The Board of Directors reserve the right to edit submissions and/or include Editor's Notes to any submitted materials.
- Deadline for submissions to the Thin Blue Line is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

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- NAPO** National Association of Police Organizations representing nearly 250,000 police officer members in 4,000 police associations nationwide.
- CCLEA** California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations representing 28 California police officer associations.
- SCALE** Southern California Alliance of Law Enforcement representing 19 police





## PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

GARY MORGAN, VICE PRESIDENT

### MOU Survey Data Is Being Evaluated

The Board and MOU negotiating team is evaluating those survey results that have been returned and is attempting to develop the strategy for our up and coming contract. The Board and negotiating team would like to thank every member for their insight and overwhelming responses. This information is extremely valuable and is vitally important for the future contract. The Board and negotiating team will keep you advised of our progress and possible future needs from the membership.

If you have not completed your survey, please return ASAP.

### Democratic National Convention Deployment Agreement Has Been Reached

The negotiating process between the Department and the Protective League Board has reached an equitable agreement. Yes, I am very pleased to bring you the results. The Department has agreed to increase vacations during deployment periods six, seven and nine to a 14% ratio rather than the normal 12%, and has agreed to open up deployment period eight "D" to the normal 12% ratio.

Additionally, those officers who would normally be granted an August vacation and have documented verifica-

tion of prepaid vacations, medical or family emergencies, or maternity leave will be granted their vacation request. I must admit the Department agreed to a number of changes requested during this negotiating process and the end results have benefited both the officers and the Department.

### Y2K Deployment

The Department has indicated a tactical alert will be declared during the Y2K Deployment. This will mean both detectives and officers may receive overtime compensation if deployment needs mandate their appearance.

Don't get me wrong, officers will be on maximum deployment during this time period and officers will be working through the holidays if regularly scheduled. Those officers who have their vacation day or days off canceled, or shifts changed, may be entitled to overtime compensation. The entitlement for overtime compensation will be made on a division by division evaluation based on the various modifications that may be requested by the Department.

The Department originally wanted to deploy detectives and uniform officers without the requirements of a negotiated "MUD" agreement (Maximum Uniform Deployment). The Protective League disputed that position. The entitlement of overtime compensation will focus on the various demands of the Department, the

MUD agreement and the tactical alert guidelines. If overtime compensation is warranted, overtime will be sought for the benefit of our employees.

Please keep me advised of the various plans proposed by your divisions during this deployment period.

### The Chief Directs Board of Inquiry of the Department

The Chief of Police has directed a Board of Inquiry. The purpose is to evaluate and make recommendations in effort to identify policies, procedures, and methods needed to prevent future incidents such as the Rampart situation. The purpose is well intended. I sincerely hope the individuals involved in the process prepare a detailed report of those recommendations made by our officers. This should not be an effort to place blame on certain individuals or ranks of individuals. The effort should be to truly identify those areas of change that need to be addressed within the Department.

The Los Angeles Police Protective League along with every officer on this Department deplores the actions of an officer that has crossed the line and damaged the trust and reputation of our profession. Yet, the important issue here is to protect those officers who are truly innocent of any wrongdoing. The community, the citizens, and just as importantly, the Department must acknowledge officers are professional individuals, who strive for honesty, truthfulness, and a dedication to duty. The acts of one individual are an exception to the rule, and those involved in enforcing the law will show no mercy on the party or parties involved. The pride we have as law enforcement officers will far outlive those who tarnished and cast a stone on our profession.

### The Chief of Police Recently Produced a Video Tape Concerning the Use of "Leather Luster" on Uniform Equipment, Polished Buttons, Nameplates and the Wearing of Patent Leather Shoes.

The Police League Board has contacted the Department concerning these issues. The suggestions made by some individuals might be well intended. Yet, the purpose or anticipated results of these actions are unclear. Our officers have prided themselves on their reputation and uniform appearance. In years past, the Los Angeles Police Department has been ranked in publications as one of the most professional and among the best in physical appearance, in the entire country. The current efforts by the Chief now appear to be somewhat misguided. I cannot understand the correlation between an officer who prides him/herself on a sharp uniform appearance and those actions of an officer embraced in conduct or behavior that is inappropriate.

If we review the history of the LAPD, after the Watts riots, the Department changed the uniform appearance and equipment of officers. The Department changed from the "Sam Brown" to the "Bruce Brown," and changed our brass buttons to silver buttons. What was the purpose? Change our image.

This appears to once again be the intent. But, is the changing of a highly shined or gloss appearance of a uniform belt, wearing of polished buttons, nameplates, and patent leather shoes truly going to change our image or change the facts currently being addressed in the media? The answer is simply no.

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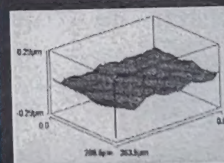
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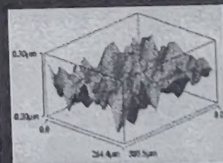
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DENNIS P. ZINE, SECRETARY

### A Rotten Apple Ruins it for All of Us

A rotten apple has caused a major disruption for all members of the LAPD and the entire law enforcement world. The admitted shooting of an unarmed suspect, assaults on suspects, theft of drugs from the property room, perjury in court, drug dealing, and a myriad of other violent and serious crimes are known to have been committed by at least one fired Los Angeles Police Officer. These events have cracked the foundation of the Department and created a credibility gap which will linger for years to come. The credibility of law enforcement in general is in serious question by the media, special interest groups, politicians, and our diverse Los Angeles communities.

I'm sure you have all seen, heard, and read about the incredible admissions of fired LAPD Officer Rafael Perez. Admitted violations of federal, state, moral, ethical and human rights laws. How could one rotten apple cause so much harm to an entire police department and the entire law enforcement world? It's rather simple. We are all placed in a position of trust, integrity, and respect by the people of the free world. We take a solemn oath to uphold the laws of the land and are trained to carry out our responsibilities in a professional, honest, and respectable manner. When this fails, we are no better than the common thugs on the street who steal and harm law-abiding persons.

The law enforcement code of ethics clearly establishes our professional values:

### 210.10 Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

"As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind—to safeguard lives and property, to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder, and to respect the Constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is

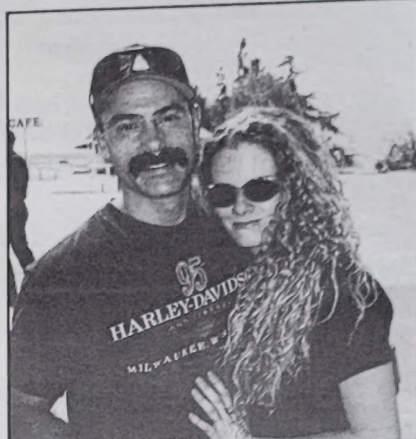


photo by Dennis P. Zine  
From Narcotics Division to happy Harley rides—Elliot and Ann Zibli.

necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my de-

tion scandal. It is a police officer who went bad. The investigation will sort out all the facts and we will all see that the hundreds of fine officers and detectives at Rampart Division are good people who have done nothing wrong. Perez will fall based on his own admissions of criminal activity.

Councilmembers have been quietly discussing the situation and are waiting for the investigations to conclude prior to making any blanket statements. Many of the council members have visited divisions in their respective districts and met with officers to reassure them that they are not jumping to conclusions. Council-

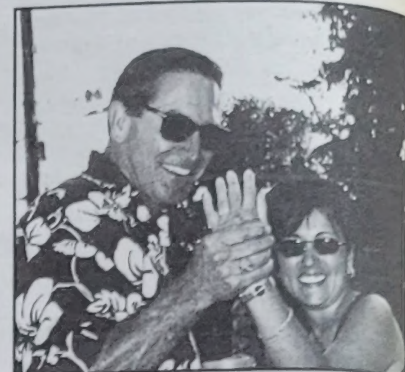
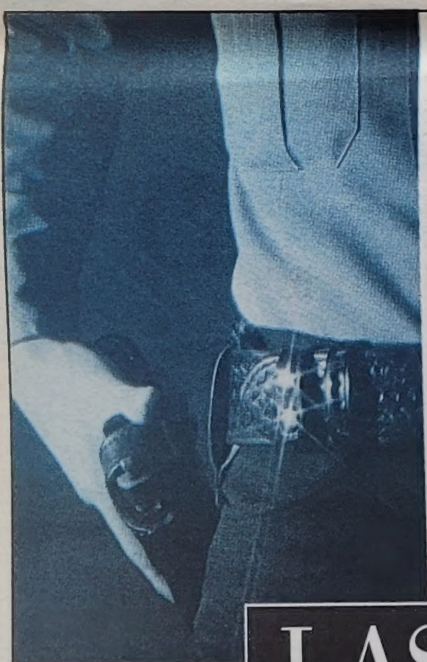


photo by Dennis P. Zine  
Congratulations to Lt. John Dunkin and Sgt. Helen Lloyd on their engagement—Soon Mr. and Mrs. Dunkin!

member Jackie Goldberg, who chairs the very important Personnel Committee, visited Rampart Division and expressed her support for the hard-working and dedicated Rampart officers. Councilman Nick Pacheco, Vice Chair of the Public Safety Committee, has made repeated visits to the divisions in his district to show support for the officers. The Councilman also visited the October League Delegates meeting and expressed his confidence in the members of the Department. Councilman Mike Hernandez voiced support for our members during his media interviews. This reaction by council members is reflective of their

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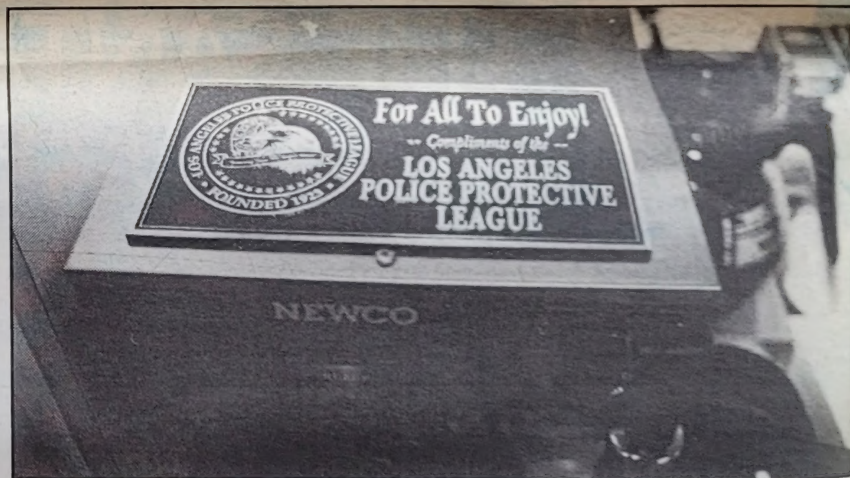


photo by Dennis P. Zine  
The famous League coffee pot located at City Hall. Stop by for a cup.

cisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...law enforcement."

We all need to remain constantly vigilant to the high standards of our profession.

### City Hall Reaction to the Perez Admissions

Unlike the shark-feeding frenzy caused by the media, City Hall officials are taking a cautious approach to the entire matter surrounding Perez's allegations of criminal behavior. You will note that I am calling it what it is. The Perez matter. This is not the Rampart corrup-

positive attitude toward the personnel of the Department. This is what I have been working on at City Hall for the past five years. Building solid and effective relationships with those who distribute the dollars and settle our contracts. The council members are not using the criminal actions of Perez to hold us hostage on our next contract. They want our contract settled as much as we do. They want to get on with business and not be troubled with labor unrest with so many other pressing City issues to resolve.

The local economy is very secure and constantly improving. We are continuing to maintain strong council support. There is no need to worry about the illegal actions of Perez spoiling your next contract negotiations.

Hang in there and please have some confidence in your Directors and our seasoned negotiating team. We know what we are doing and how to get it done. Remember, we delivered your last four-year contract on time with an 18% salary increase, in addition to improved medi-





## PROTECTING YOUR RIGHTS

TIM SANDS, TREASURER

### Job Well Done

Recently I was contacted by an officer and his Defense Representative **Mitzi Grasso**. I had represented the officer some time ago. They informed me that he had just completed a Board of Rights for an alcohol-related incident where he admitted he had fallen off the wagon and was asking for an alcohol contract to help him control his disease of alcoholism. This would have been his second alcohol contract. The Board determined there was a negative retention issue and denied the contract and recommended to the Chief of Police that the officer be terminated. The officer had almost 19 1/2 years on the job.

The officer's Defense Representative **Mitzi Grasso** agreed with me that the officer deserved better than termination after 19 1/2 years. We contacted the Chief of Police through the Chief of Staff's office to ask the Chief to save the officer's job and grant a second alcohol contract. At first, our efforts were met with skepticism. However Mitzi didn't quit and continued to negotiate a deal for this officer. I am happy to say that a resolution to this case was agreed upon. The particulars I am not able to reveal, however, this officer will be able to reach his 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

It is this kind of tenacious effort that a lot of Defense Representatives do, how-

ever, they are not recognized. **Job Well Done Mitzi Grasso!**

I would also like to make honorable mention to the Chief of Staff, Deputy Chief Gascon and Chief Parks for their insight in this matter.

### Medal of Valor

I attended the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Medal of Valor luncheon on September 15, 1999. I want to congratulate the 18 recipients of

they didn't know. Second, was the officer involved shooting of two CRASH officers, James Edwards and Rex Yap, where Yap was shot in the face in an exchange of fire, yet continued to fight and return fire as Officer Edwards rescued his downed partner and carried him out of the line of fire. The final incident was off-duty Officer Parker and Reserve Officer Fairchild who arrested an armed ADW suspect after the suspect had fired a bar-



League Director Tim Sands with honored Officer James Edwards and children.

this most honored award. The awards covered three incidents.

One incident was the rescue of fatally shot Glendale Officer Charles Lazzaretto where numerous LAPD officers put their own lives on the line to save an officer

rage of rounds at them during a vehicle and foot pursuit. These officers show what this Department is truly made of. Congratulations to all for jobs well done!

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## UNITED WE STAND

GARY FULLERTON

### Guilt By Association

This is the primary offense that will be found in the Rampart scandal. From the Chief on down, the word is that they are going to uncover all of the "corruption" within our Department, but concede that much of the "corruption" will be unprovable and based primarily on stories told by a convicted thief trying to lighten his own sentence. But this will not stop the Chief from exposing the "Code of Silence," which generally consists of officers not knowing what other officers are doing and failing to report things that they didn't know. Don't get me wrong. I don't condone any wrongdoing by officers, but I also am adamant that innocent officers should not be sacrificed to uphold the good name of the organization. And from the looks of things, it appears that innocent officers will pay a price because the Chief needs to appease the masses.

The Chief has made it clear that not being truthful is major misconduct and will not be tolerated. I have no problem with this concept. It is obvious that police officers must be reliable and truthful. But this concept of "false statements" is being taken to new levels of insanity. Take, for example, several officers who were recently ordered to a Board of Rights for serious misconduct. Three officers had a Board convene and hear the evidence. This Board found all three officers "not guilty" of all the serious charges. A fourth officer had a separate Board and the other three officers testified as to the same facts as at their own Board. The second Board found the accused officer guilty of all charges and recommended termination. This may sound unfair since another Board heard the same facts and ruled in favor of the accused officers. But this is the way tribunals work. Each Board hears the evidence separately and

judges separately. The problem was that after the second Board, the Board ordered a complaint for "false and misleading statements" be made against the three officers who had already been found "not guilty" at their own Board. How can an officer who had been found "not guilty" make false statements about the same underlying facts? Obviously the first Board found the officers credible, so how can another Board deem them liars?

Another recent case involving the Rampart issue involved an officer who had the unfortunate luck to have worked with Raphael Perez and be a boyhood friend of David Mack. This officer was interviewed numerous times about his relationship with these officers and he answered all questions asked of him. After numerous interviews, this officer was confronted with information that was never asked of him and he was asked to explain why he did not volunteer it. He responded that he was never asked about the issues. He was told that he should have known that the investigators would be interested in this information and that by not volunteering the information he had failed to cooperate. The officer was relieved from duty and has been ordered to a Board of Rights. Defense Reps and attorneys routinely tell officers to just answer the questions. Is there a duty to volunteer information that one may or may not think is relevant? I don't think so, but this is exactly the kind of case that will end up being seen by many as a prime example of the "Code of Silence." The League does not condone a "Code of Silence" and we routinely tell our members that they must be fastidiously truthful. Bad cops are in no one's best interest and the League supports legitimate efforts to weed them out. But the truth of the

matter is that there is a perception that "heads must swing" to prove that the Department and the Chief are cleaning house, and it doesn't matter if Perez and Mack are the only dirty cops around.

So the Chief has convened a Board of Inquiry that consists of fifty command officers. The general perception by the troops is that there are fifty command officers assigned to this task force so that they won't investigate themselves. Hopefully, the Chief will realize that if there is a problem with this organization, it is the double standard of responsibility and accountability. Many command officers are hard working and well intentioned, but some think that the rules apply only to their subordinates and not to them. This attitude permeates from the top -- the Chief himself. The Chief can authorize a personnel complaint against a League Director for having no license plates on his personal vehicle, but when it is pointed out that the Chief's car has no plates and no temporary DMV paperwork, it is ignored and the Chief continues to drive with no plates for months afterward. What message does this send? How can Captains Meraz and Salicos be accused of turning a blind eye to the problems at Rampart, and not similarly accuse the Bureau on up to the Chief of Police? Shouldn't the buck stop at the Chief's desk? After all, he is in charge and constantly reminds us of this fact. Maybe the Chief will surprise us and do the right thing. But don't hold your breath. It is much easier and more expedient to blame a few underlings and assure the masses that everything is under control.

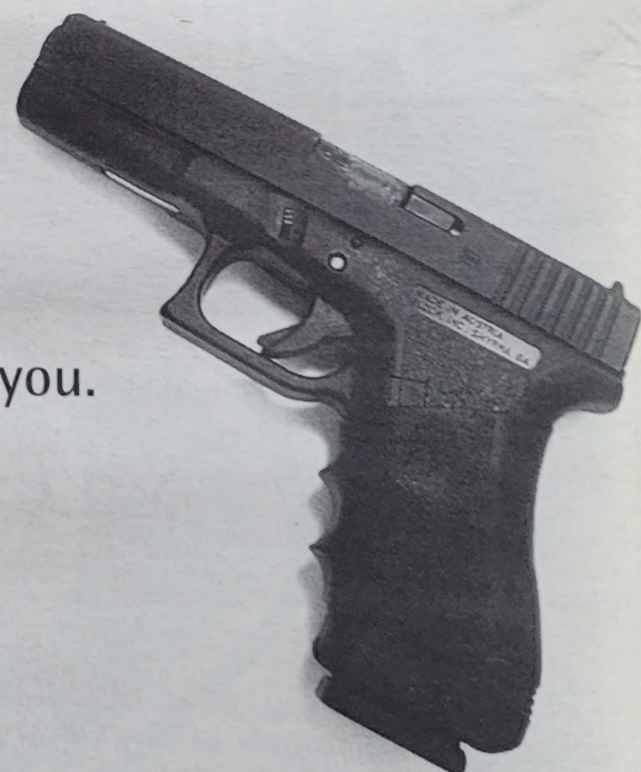
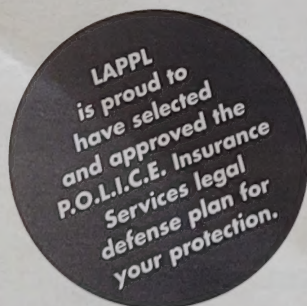
Be safe out there. It continually amazes me that so many officers continue to work hard and try and do a good job. But remember, the Chief doesn't pay your legal bills, he creates them.

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## A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL COUNSEL

by Hank Hernandez, Attorney at Law

### It's Time to Take Care of Our Business Before Someone Else Does

It has come to our attention at the League that lawyers assigned to the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) are once again investigating the Los Angeles Police Department, probably as a result of the corruption allegations made by convicted felon Rafael Perez. Apparently, these federal lawyers are trying very hard to establish that our Department, as an entity, has a pattern and practice of civil rights violations. We are attempting to confirm that DOJ attorneys have requested and/or demanded copies of all adjudicated personnel complaint investigations since the infamous Rodney King "incident" from the Department. Because DOJ tends to be very secretive, we do not exactly know the present status of the investigation.

We all need to be aware that DOJ has demonstrated in the past that upon completion of this type of investigation, it

enters into "consent decree" agreements with cities that have been their targets. These consent decrees do in fact impose very strict federal controls over day-to-day operations of target police departments. This was accomplished in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Steubenville, Ohio, and in Springfield, Massachusetts. The city of Columbus, Ohio, is presently considering a proposed consent decree. For example, in Columbus, one provision of the proposed consent decree gives DOJ unfair control over the appointment of the Chief of Police. The proposed consent decree also has a provision which gives a federal judge the authority to override the collective bargaining contract (MOU). These are but two examples of the devastating impact of these consent decrees on police departments and especially on the collective bargaining process.

The League is currently in consultation with other police unions and other national police organizations in efforts to develop an effective strategy on how to deal with the imposition of these federal consent decrees. While we certainly want

to cooperate with DOJ representatives to the extent possible, there is absolutely no way that we will abrogate our collective duty to protect the rights of officers nor will we neglect our commitment of protecting honest officers from silly and patently false allegations. We will also not hesitate to refuse to bargain an MOU with the federal government. Labor contracts must be negotiated with the City of Los Angeles as the employer, not with DOJ lawyers.

I bring this serious matter to your attention to warn you of the potential serious consequences of a federal consent decree here in Los Angeles. I very strongly and sincerely urge each and every one of you LAPD officers, regard-

less of rank or assignment, to take proactive action to take care of our business of policing this great city professionally and honestly. It's our job to keep the job clean. An honest cop needs to be a bad cop's worst fear. We can't allow one rotten apple to spoil the honest bunch. It has to be an honest day's work for an honest day's pay. Period. Please remember that all the public sees is the blue uniform. You all look alike to them. That's why you've got to take care of this problem before it becomes someone else's problem. Be safe and be honest.

May you and your family have a very happy Thanksgiving.

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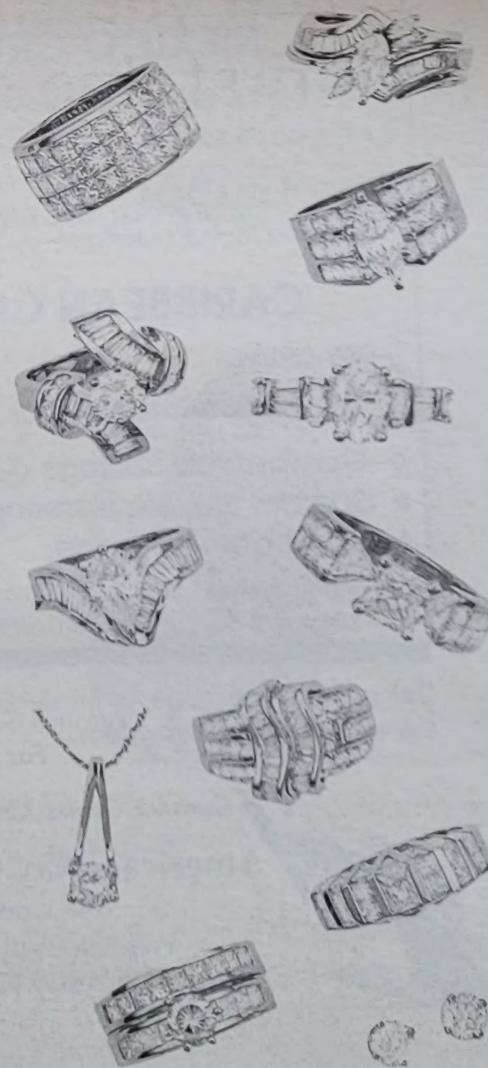
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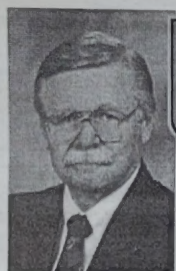
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## WARNING BELL

by Gary Ingemunson, Attorney at Law

"Never send to know for  
whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee"

—John Donne

You have been testifying in front of the jury for over two hours. The district attorney has paused and is looking through his notes. You sit there full of confidence because you know your case well and you have handled every question in a professional manner. This case has taken a long time to put together, but you have stayed with it. It was worthwhile, the defendant is a major drug dealer and blight in your basic car area. You have taken your time and done everything by the book and it has paid off. The defendant's attorneys have run every motion known to man to keep you from getting in front of this jury, but time and time again the judge upheld your police work. It has taken months to get to this moment and you are ready. The district attorney satisfies himself that he has covered everything. He clears his throat, "No further, your honor."

You brace yourself for the cross-examination. You expect it to last for several hours, but you are prepared. How many feet, what day, how many minutes, how did you do this, how did you do that? It would go on and on as the defense attorney tries to find some small discrepancy in your testimony. You know there won't be any. You have built an airtight case against this bottom feeder and he is one cross-examination away from ten years in the joint.

The defense attorney stands up. You mentally brace yourself. You can feel the jury leaning forward in anticipation.

"Officer, have you ever worked Rampart?"

You are puzzled. "Yes, two years ago."

The defense attorney looks at the jury. "No further," he says. And sits down.

The entire courtroom is stunned. You feel the jury looking at you. They get the point. So do you. The rules have changed. Good police work is no longer enough.

After being Rodney King's punching bag for several years, LAPD now has to deal with the fallout from the Perez situation. One officer, or a small group of officers, however it turns out, have had a major impact on all aspects of your life as an LAPD officer. I wish the above described courtroom scene was imaginary, but similar situations have, in fact, been happening. That is the criminal court side. The civil court side will be much the same. Expect hostile depositions and a new fervor for lawsuits against the City. Plaintiff's attorneys see the newspaper stories as good training for the jury pool.

There will be an economic impact too. The League is heading into negotiations for a new contract. Opponents will be quick to point out the millions of dollars that will have to be paid to

plaintiffs which, of course, will not be available for raises and benefits.

Finally, expect your working environment to continue to change. Management's reaction will be of the "crack down" variety. A flurry of overreaction meant to appease the critics. High sounding principals will be unequally enforced against those with no mentors. There will be a certain number of sacrificial lambs required, some of whom will be guilty, some of whom won't. Any charge relating to false and misleading will be fatal to your career and the accusation will be almost as destructive as the conviction. It's going to be a rough ride.

The reality is that "no man is an island" as John Donne said, before that phrasing was sexist. His point was that what each of us does has an effect on all of the rest. That being the case, it is axiomatic that you actually are your brother or sister's keeper, if you know what is good for you. Negative discipline will be liberally applied to your brothers and sisters by management so there is lots of room for other methods to be tried on those few officers who could use a little extra attention.

The most effective method is positive peer pressure. This organization is saturated with ethics and honesty despite the *Los Angeles Times*'s need to peddle the opposite impression to sell newspapers. It is time to wear those qualities on your sleeves for all to see. The officer that is developing the John Wayne syndrome needs his peers to cut him off at the pass before he gets to the Alamo. This officer's sergeant has been hobbled by management's requirement to "burn em to learn em." Any sergeant that doesn't go to paper at the slightest hint of misconduct will soon be looking at his own 1.28, so it is the street cop that needs to remain vigilant for anything that might grow into misconduct. Department policies have pretty much neutralized the field supervisor's availability and accessibility to any officer just beginning to go down a slippery path.

A pro-active attitude at the street level in terms of reinforcing respect for Constitutional rights would help straighten out the young officer who starts to believe that the Dirty Harry and *Lethal Weapon* series of movies actually has something in common with real life police work. In real life, Clint Eastwood and Mel Gibson would be cell mates in federal prison long before they got to the first sequel. In spite of movies such as *L.A. Confidential*, the end does not justify the means. History has taught us that over

and over again. The experienced officers on the street have to openly display the truth to all and establish an atmosphere that does not sanction "shortcuts."

The tragedy of the Perez situation is that it justifies in the minds of politicians, judges and the public, the roll back of hard won rights for police officers. Expect an attack on the Police Officer Bill of Rights with Perez being the cornerstone of the assault. The Chief is already talking about bringing back the polygraph. The acid test will be if he wants captains and above to also take lie detector tests. This will tell you whether you are being led, or led on.

It is sad but true that one thousand commendations do not equal one complaint. That is why peer intervention would be more effective than just continuing to do your usual good job. Stopping the conduct that could end up becoming misconduct if not addressed keeps those thousand good deeds from being canceled in the minds of the public. Deep down, the public knows that it is not the newspaper editors, the judges or the politicians who go toe to toe with evil. It is the officers on the street. The public will be watching you. The only way to repair the trust that was stolen from you by Perez is to continue to demonstrate to the public that you are trustworthy, one act at a time. Any officer that fails to demonstrate, hurts all other officers, and that officer needs intervention. Peer intervention, not the heavy-handed slam of the Department discipline system.

Management also needs to hear warning bells and realize that they have no trust and little respect from the troops. It is time that they also realize that they must repair that breach, one act at a time. The officers must be convinced that they will be treated fairly, at least by the Department, when they are involved in the use of force and everyday conflicts engendered by the very nature of police work. Abuse by criminal defense attorneys, plaintiff's attorneys, anti-police groups and the press go with the job. The perception that Department management is joining this mob and "headhunting" any officer involved in anything controversial widens the gap between the officers and management and makes any meaningful dialogue less and less likely.

As usual, the problem will have to be ultimately solved at the street level. That is why being alert for the attitudes and actions that are the first steps towards the next big embarrassing headline and intervening is in everyone's best interest. And like any true act of pure kindness, no one will know you did it.

Be legally careful out there.

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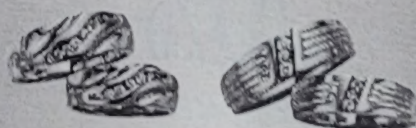
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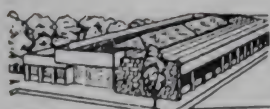
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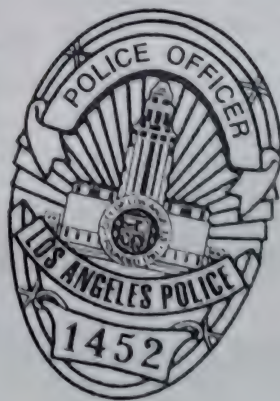
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# POLITICAL FRONTLINE



## Time Magazine Says Gray Davis is the Most Fearless Governor in America

One of the League's good friends from the Lone Star state of Texas frequently makes this comment about politics: "Thar's only two things in the middle of the road—yeller lines and dead armadillos."

But Gray Davis, the man that *Time* magazine calls the "Most fearless governor in America," appears to have walked carefully and safely down the middle of the road, in order to accomplish what the majority of Californians elected him to do. While the vast majority of Californians approve of what Davis is doing, he has only offended the extremists of both parties.

In the 1998 campaign for the "corner office," many people painted Gray—gray. They tried to color him as a mild-mannered, "Casper Milktoast," left wing, whining liberal type. His greatest obstacle to overcome among police officers and fire fighters was his stint as Chief of Staff to the very colorful and odd Jerry Brown.

But show a difference he did. Governor Davis clearly and boldly announced, "I am a moderate, I am running as a moderate, and I will govern as a moderate." Conventional political wisdom is that middle-of-the-roads can't make it, they are simple "road kill."

As the California Governor does exactly what he said he would do, govern from the middle, the highly vocal zealots from both extremes squeal and criticize, but the bulk of Californians are pleased to see a fiscal conservative and socially responsible governor.

Jim Brulte, the state senator from Rancho Cucamonga and guardian of the GOP purse strings, said, "You can work with him, oh, absolutely. On fiscal issues he's closer to us than the Democrats."

By contrast from the extreme left, "aging radical" Tom Hayden criticizes Governor Davis for leading the California Democratic party away from the left and back to the center. The self-proclaimed egalitarian Hayden specifically criticizes the growing disparity between the rich and the poor.

Back to the GOP side, Scott Baugh, the assembly member from Huntington Beach, said, "He (Davis) has tempered the insatiable appetite of the liberals," which further illustrates that Davis represents middle California, not the vocal fanatics from both camps.

"I really don't care which side of the aisle a good idea comes from," Davis said in his State of the State Speech, "as long as it will work." And California seems to be working well under Governor Davis's leadership.

(Source: *Time*, October 11, 1999.)

## COPS West Trade Show

by Ted Hunt

COPS West was a police equipment trade show presented at the Ontario Convention Center last month. The event which had nearly 100 display booths was attended by thousands of officers from southern California, including several from LAPD.



From left to right: POST Senior Consultant Bernie Homme, League President and POST Commissioner Ted Hunt, and POST Senior Consultant Mickey Bennett, at COPS West Show

On display were various types of armaments, ammunition, uniforms, and other equipment to help officers do their job more effectively and efficiently. Information resources were presented as well, such as POST and the National Institute of Justice. There

were also general interest displays. The Los Angeles Police Historical Society had one of the North Hollywood Shoot Out cars on exhibit.

COPS West was so successful that it will be held again next year. If you are in a position to make recommendations for the purchase of equipment such as patrol bicycles, safety equipment,

weapons, ammunition, uniforms, and any other equipment, you should go to this next year.

We will put it in the *Thin Blue Line* well enough in advance so you can make plans to attend.

## To: The Honorable Gray Davis—Governor of California

### Re: Veto of Senate Bill 78

Dear Governor Davis:

We respectfully request that you veto Senate Bill 78 by the Honorable Kevin Murray.

SB 78 has the laudable goal of trying to help resolve an historic racial division, particularly between the African-American community and police officials. The Bill will require local law enforcement agencies to statistically track and profile by race, the people with whom local police officials come in contact.

We believe that the unintended results of this legislation will exacerbate already existing racial schisms. Rather than heal the deep social wounds, we believe that SB 78 will feed the prejudices of those who relish finger pointing, blaming, hatred, bitterness and violence. Moreover, we believe that SB 78 will impose significant state-mandated and unfunded costs on local governments.

First, the issue of racial division is as old as the American culture. In particu-

lar, the African-American experience is a deep wound in the soul of our great nation. The personal and collective humiliations, injustices, and abject moral



Protective League Board of Directors and General Counsel meet with Governor Gray Davis regarding SB 78. From left: Past President Dave Hepburn, Director Cliff Ruff, Governor Davis, President Ted Hunt, and General Counsel Hank Hernandez.

wrongs that underpin the racial divide are self evident. Our society has worked

to try to integrate everyone into a unique social fabric that offers equality to all, free from disparate treatment and freedom from singling out and high-

lighting differences.

The second reason we believe that SB 78 should be vetoed is that it imposes significant unfunded costs to local agencies. We have calculated the added costs to the city of Los Angeles to be approximately \$20,000,000 to \$25,000,000 per year. We have been in contact with the offices of Chief Bernard Parks and Sheriff Lee Baca, the chief executive officers of the two largest metropolitan policing agencies in the state, and find that our estimates and calculations are in line with theirs.

The time for finger pointing and blame is gone. But SB 78 brings it back. It's time to move forward to resolve, to make things right and just, to heal the wounds that exist on both sides of the racial divide. That can only be done through education and training.

Police officers are societal leaders. As such they can accept and assume a significant role in helping to resolve the historic maladies. The most effective and efficient way to do this is through professional experience and instruction, not through identifying and singling out people by race.

Senate Bill 66, also by Senator Murray, is a two-year bill. It could be modified to make a significant difference in police-community relations by establishing a research and teaching center in a joint partnership with the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) and one of the California State Universities.

The United States Department of Defense has established a successful model for this concept in its Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI). After the Vietnam War, the military realized that it had significant internal racial problems and set out to resolve them through academic study and training people in a specific curriculum designed to resolve racial divisions. Housed at Patrick Air Force Base in Florida, DEOMI has been very successful in helping to train leaders in this area and to resolve racial problems in the military. By adopting the DEOMI model to the police service, California law enforcement could set the pace in this nation as the leader in resolving the police-community and racial problems.

We urge you to veto SB 78 which we believe exacerbates the problem and encourage Senator Murray to rewrite SB 66 to resolve the problem.

Very truly yours,  
Board of Directors  
Los Angeles Police Protective League  
(Note: This Bill was vetoed by Governor Davis on 9/28/99.)

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## City Councilmember Mike Feuer

Mike Feuer, 41, first was elected to the Los Angeles City Council, 5th District, in June, 1995, and re-elected in June, 1997. He has taken a leadership role in critical areas of gun violence, emergency services, government reform, children's and seniors' issues, the environment, and race relations, among other issues.

Mike authored legislation to combat illegal weapons trafficking by limiting handgun purchases to one per month. Police call it the city's most promising law to attack gun violence. He also wrote the law requiring that trigger locks be sold with every handgun, limiting high capacity ammunition clips, and requiring background checks of gun store employees. He is organizing similar efforts in cities throughout metropolitan Los Angeles.

To fix the overburdened 9-1-1 system in Los Angeles, Mike initiated development of a new 3-1-1 phone number for non-emergency city services. Mike helped obtain a federal 3-1-1 grant for Los Angeles. This new system could be operational next year.

Believing government should be more inclusive and efficient, Mike created neighborhood councils and introduced Charter Reform on the City Council floor. To make City Hall friendlier to small businesses and entrepreneurs, Mike played a leading role in business tax reform, where he successfully pushed to include major incentives for start-up business. Mike also has focused on ethics reform and has won approval for important measures including a prohibition on giving city business to contractors who violate the law.

As a parent and a city official, Mike is committed to making Los Angeles a place where children can thrive. He wrote one of the most sweeping laws in the nation to remove tobacco and alcohol billboards and signs from areas where kids live, play or go to school. Mike spearheaded the effort to get lead paint out of city parks and day care centers. When he learned there is no playground in California where disabled children can play on equipment on their own, he authored legislation that sets aside two acres in Griffith Park for the first Boundless Playground in Los Angeles.

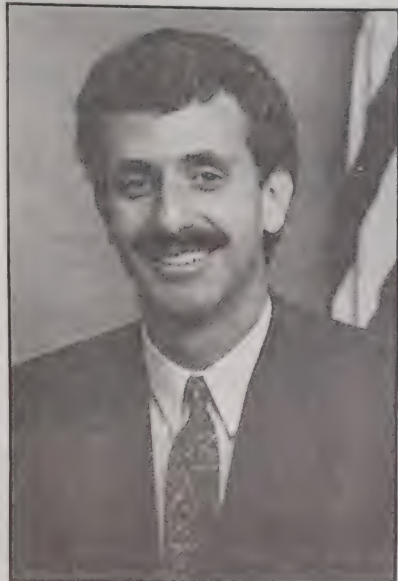
Mike also led the effort in City Hall to advance gender equity in after-school sports programs, resulting in an aggressive new "Raise the Bar" program which will open the doors of L.A. recreation centers to girls as never before. Mike pushed for expanded library hours and worked with the School District to develop a joint-use agreement enabling public schools to open for neighborhood recreation after hours and on weekends.

Bringing together leaders from the Cal State system, the Community College and School Districts, education unions and the city, Mike is creating a unique program called Read L.A. to tutor kindergarten through third graders in reading after school and on weekends. A *Los Angeles Times* editorial said, "Feuer deserves credit for taking the lead" on a program that "has the potential to help children statewide become competent readers, while at the same time helping college students become better teachers."

Improving the lives of senior citizens is one of Mike's key goals. He added funding for 75,000 senior meals to the city budget after discovering that requests for those meals were rejected for lack of funds. He successfully fought for new affordable senior housing. Mike is trying to improve the city's response to elder abuse and created the safety NET (Neighborhood Emergency Training) program through which

neighbors are trained to look after isolated seniors during earthquakes or other emergencies.

Protecting and improving our environment are also top priorities. Mike is leading a pilot project to green a stretch of the Los Angeles River that could become a model for the rest of the city. He engineered the acquisition and pro-



Councilmember Mike Feuer.

tection of Deervale, a large parcel of Santa Monica Mountains land slated for development. He successfully led opposition to an MTA plan to purchase diesel buses that spew carcinogens into our neighborhoods, and has fought for funds to clean Santa Monica Bay.

Race relations remain one of the biggest challenges in Los Angeles. Mike created a new program, "Shoulder-to-Shoulder" to promote improved race relations among youth. He obtained funding to invigorate the city's Human Relations Commission and expand its powers, and currently is a leader of efforts to improve White/Latino relations.

Mike represents the Fifth District, which includes all or parts of Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Van Nuys, North Hollywood, Valley Village, Valley Glen, Bel Air, Beverly Glen, Benedict Canyon, Laurel Canyon, Westwood, Century City, Cheviot Hills, Beverly Fairfax, Beverlywood, Carthay and Pico-Robertson.

Before joining the Council, Mike was executive director of Bet Tzedek Legal Services, which provides free legal help to elderly, poor and disabled clients. According to *The Los Angeles Daily Journal*, Mike "changed Bet Tzedek from a public service law firm with some promise to a nationally recognized success story." Under Mike's leadership, Bet Tzedek assisted approximately 50,000 clients, establishing programs to combat substandard housing, fight home equity fraud, assist Spanish-speaking Alzheimer's patients, and help victims of the 1992 civil unrest and the 1994 Northridge earthquake. At Bet Tzedek, Mike directed a staff of fifty, with hundreds of volunteers, operating from offices in the Beverly-Fairfax neighborhood and in North Hollywood.

Mike also has taught at UCLA Law School and practiced law at the firm of Hufstader, Miller, Carlson & Beardsley. He began his career as a judicial clerk to former California Supreme Court Justice Joseph Grodin.

Mike graduated *magna cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, from Harvard College ('80) and *cum laude* from Harvard Law School ('83). He currently serves on the Harvard Law School Board of Overseers' Visiting Committee. He is married to environmental attorney Gail Ruderman Feuer. They have two children—Aaron and Danielle.



photo by Dennis P. Zine

Congratulations to the La Ley 1999-2000 Board of Directors. From left to right: Rich Haro, Art Placencia, Bill Mares, Art Gomez and Mark Espinoza. Not pictured: Juan Arroyo, Dave Muro and Mercedes Hallock.



Directors Dennis P. Zine, Cliff Ruff and Ted Hunt with Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa.



Dewitt Ruth, Incumbent Board Member of the Perris Valley High School District is running for re-election. He has been endorsed by the League for this office.

## Police Memorial: Income Tax Check Off

The California Peace Officer's Memorial Foundation (CPOMF) was established by and for peace officers so that we never forget the sacrifices that our brother and sister officers have made. The League has been an active member of the Memorial Foundation from its inception.

The Foundation does two things. First the Foundation built and maintains the actual Peace Officers Memorial which is located at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Capital Street, directly in front of the State Capitol in Sacramento. Second, each May, the Foundation presents a formal memorial ceremony in Sacramento which is very solemn and dignified.

Funding the Memorial has always been a "hat-in-hand" proposition as police associations sought out corporate sponsors, including 7-Eleven, UPS and Motorola. That was never a very satisfactory way to fund the Memorial.

The League joined the California Correctional Peace Officer's Association and nearly all of the other California based law enforcement associations to support a bill which Governor Davis recently signed into law. It allows taxpayers to designate a specific dollar amount of your tax refund to be allocated to the California Peace Officer Memorial Foundation Fund.

When you file your State of California income tax return next year, you can designate part of the tax return to be automatically transferred to the California Peace Officers Memorial Fund. The money in that Memorial Fund can only be used for building, (adding on to) and maintaining the actual Memorial or producing the Memorial Services and events.

Making a tax check off to the California Peace Officer's Memorial Foundation fund is something that we support.



# Angelinos Express Support For Hard-Working and Dedicated LAPD Personnel

Dear Editor:

The allegations of LAPD corruption make me sick. After 15 years of service I honestly say that had I known about the "shenanigans" of scum like Mack and Perez I would have gladly handed them to Internal Affairs!

I am wondering if the Department has forgotten the lessons of "Rodney King." The Department's aggressive style, combined with a young "rank-n-file" which is evaluated by Department leadership based upon statistical measures (re-cap) which rewards the "aggressive officers" was one of the problems identified in the Christopher Commission. Retired Assistant Chief Dotson recognized these "temptations" and said, "this gets us into trouble time after time . . . frequently uses of force, frequently with the manufacturing or at least puffing of probable cause" (page 98, chap. 5).

The Commission gave the Department and public "solutions" to these "temptations." In the years since then we have either forgotten or not followed through completely with these recommendations. This recent atrocity has once again created a grave mistrust of many well-meaning, honest, hard-working, dedicated officers, who gladly place their lives on the line each day for the people of this city. We (the uniformed officers) now bear the brunt of this skepticism and have been painted with that "broad brush" of corruption.

I hope that people understand that (the "convict") Rafael Perez makes his allegations knowing that he has nothing to lose. Regardless of what he says, and as long as it "appears" he is "cooperating," he gets the "plea bargain" of a "light sentence" in jail. We should lock him up and throw away the key! The same goes for Mack. Both are morally and ethically bankrupt.

What do they have to lose by "trashing" this Department and officers? Perez didn't care about us the day he took

coconine from evidence that he intended to sell on the streets. "Convict" Mack didn't care about us the day he committed a bank robbery. Both were motivated by greed. People should not be quick to believe them now. I don't understand this rush to judgment that LAPD is a seething den of corruption. Both Mack and Perez made the choice to go over to the "dark side" of humanity. Perez has already admitted to "perjury."

I think by the time this "mess" is over, BOTH will be out of jail, off parole, and writing their "tell all" books and appearing on "talk shows." Both will be laughing at us ALL. Their deception will have paid off once again. I can't think of harsh enough words that describe the type of "ilk" Perez and Mack embody.

Despite all of our progress within LAPD, we are still very much stuck in the past and we seem to be making the same mistakes. "Nostalgia" can be a seductive liar. I think their lust for the "good ol' days" is partly to blame in this case. The sad fact of this corruption mess is the "good officers" and the public all suffer.

We will continue work in a "pressure cooker" and deal with a skeptical side of the public. I don't blame the public. We will continue to deal with the police bureaucracy that seems more interested in maintaining a "status quo" instead of solving the problems that created monsters like Mack and Perez. After 20 years of police service I will feel lucky if I can walk away with my "sanity" and a "marginal" pension plan.

What the public fails to understand is that calling a police officer "corrupt" is like calling a person a "child molester." People will always wonder if we're really "guilty" and just "beat the rap." The final outcome is irrelevant to most people. Allegations like this leave a stain upon a person and this city and create such an unfavorable impression that no amount of after-refutation will wipe it away.

Due to criminal vermin like Mack and Perez. ALL the "good" officers, their families, and this city now suffer the embarrassment of this "probe." It is truly a dark day for us all. In all honesty I am "ashamed" to say "I work for LAPD." The last time I felt this way is in 1991 after "Rodney King" and the riots that followed a year later.

(Name withheld on file with editor.)

★ ★ ★

During the last few months you have printed three letters from Larry Mazur, Jr., which have expressed very derogatory statements regarding the LAPD and FBI. My name is also Larry Mazur and I am a retired Sergeant with LAPD. After working with LAPD for 23 years, I assure you that many of the statements made by Mazur, Jr., while his opinion, are not based on facts as far as the LAPD are concerned.

I go on record right now to the many fine officers and management of LAPD that although my name was put on those letters they were not written by me. Being former LAPD I understand the blood, sweat, and tears that the many fine officers give for this city.

It is mentioned in the Bible that Christians should build each other up and not tear each other down. I suggest the same practice should hold true for the people of Los Angeles. No good can ever be gained by the citizens of Los Angeles or the press attacking their own police department. There is no profession in which every member is perfect, the clergy, the legal or medical profession, not the presidency, not even LAPD. I must say that in my years with LAPD that we too have found out that a few of the select have not been up to the standards to "Protect and Serve." And, it is sad to say that there will probably be more in the future. LAPD does their very best to screen, train and supervise these officers but some bad apples will always slip through. However, there are more dedicated, loyal, honest, and caring police officers in LAPD than there are bad officers.

Speaking as a former patrol officer, and also one that has worked in various positions with LAPD, I know how it feels to have the people you are on the street to protect look at you as though you are corrupt, because they think if you're a police officer in L.A. you may be dirty. Why? Because every good cop has been lumped in with a few bad ones.

There is a danger with this concept. It demoralizes the very officers whom everyone must depend upon for protection and help. I am sure it has even caused a few good officers to give up and be followers instead of leaders.

I implore the press and the people of L.A. to support their officers. There is no doubt that LAPD is the finest police department in America. We should be proud of what we have and not constantly criticize the officers and management. If you're looking for perfection, you will not find it with LAPD or NYPD, or any other large police department. What you will find is the majority of officers who risk their lives every time they pull up to a house where a man is beating his wife, or when that call comes across the radio that there is a robbery in progress. Think about it, L.A., the next time you call for a police officer. He may be risking his

life to protect yours. Please work with the LAPD for a better department, don't work against them. There has been too much criticism already. It's time to support your department.

Larry Mazur, Jr. does not live in Los Angeles. So I would suggest to him (A) Get your facts straight; and, (B) limit your opinions about police departments to the town in which you live and know about.

Larry Mazur, Retired LAPD

★ ★ ★

**To: Councilman Hal Bernson**

Dear Councilman Bernson:

As your appointed representative to the Police, Fire, and Public Safety Committee, we would like to express our continuous support for the men and women of the Los Angeles Police Department.

While we do not condone the actions of a few, we heartily approve the dedication of the vast majority of our law police officers.

Sincerely,

Ed Cholakian, Chairperson Police, Fire and Public Safety

cc: Mayor Riordan,

Capt. Joe Curren (Blue Line)

★ ★ ★

**Thoughts From a Retiree  
Stand Tall And Be Proud!**

by Keith D. Bushey

The tragedy stemming from the CRASH Unit at Rampart has touched all of us. As a retiree, I find the pain which has been inflicted upon the Department to be just as severe as when I had the honor of wearing LAPD blue. At times such as these, the big question is what the individual employee can do to deal with the situation. The answer is simple: continue to do the very best job possible.

Notwithstanding some slight variations, the public generally falls into one of the three categories. The first—fortunately the smallest—are those individuals who are not and have never been Department supporters; although in some form of remission, they have been energized by the present scandal and are being more vocal than usual. The second group—and the largest—consists of those individuals who think strongly support the Department and its personnel, and rightfully recognize that the horrible actions of a very few are not representative of the Department. The third group—which is fairly substantial—consists of solid people who, because of an unfamiliarity with the Department, are susceptible to having their confidence somewhat shaken. Forget the first group: no amount of good work will turn them around. However, by standing proud and demonstrating consummate professionalism, you ratify the solid expectations of our supporters and strengthen the perception of those whose confidence may have been shaken. Those who are not our friends want you to walk around feeling ashamed and with your tail between your legs; do not give them that satisfaction.

The Los Angeles Police Department has a long and well-deserved reputation for integrity. We did not get that reputation by talking about it and making promises, but rather, in past scandalous situations, by acting decisively to discover and remove from our ranks those

## A Message to the Men and Women of the Los Angeles Police Department



We have worked with and helped many of you during the past year, which is why we are so outraged by the less than objective portrayal

of the LAPD by the news media during the past ten days. Our opinions are vividly expressed in the following copy of a letter our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer sent to the Los Angeles Times today:

September 24, 1999

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am fortunate to have the opportunity to work with and know many of the men and women in the Los Angeles Police Department. They are an incredibly dedicated, conscientious, honest, and hard-working group of people who are being unfairly tarnished by the alleged actions of a few miscreants. I hope the LAPD officers and civilian personnel do not let

themselves be victimized by slanted news reports. The invective of Ted Koppel in his news show last night is one example. There is no part of this world which is "perfect," including the news media. Although the problems of the LAPD are newsworthy, so are their accomplishments. A balanced portrayal would put both in perspective, instead of making it appear that a drop of poison has infected the ocean.

The people at the LAPD need to know there are many citizens like me who admire, appreciate, and applaud the way they do their jobs. They should hold their heads high and be proud of the vital role they have in all of our lives.

Sincerely,  
Robert C. Weiss  
Chairman and Chief  
Executive Officer of  
The Richland Group

There are many people who share our views and we hope they join us in publicly acknowledging them.





who are not worthy of the Department's ethical heritage. Despite the best efforts and intentions, thousands of employees and millions of citizens spread across several hundred square miles will translate into occasional difficulties. Do not forget, and do not let anyone else forget, that the Department discovered the Rampart situation, and the Department will fix it.

At times like these, every individual and organization with an ax to grind and/or a special interest to pursue will attempt to tie their beliefs into the situation and use this tragedy to further various agendas. There is no shortage of individuals who, most with the best of intentions, will suggest the repair of things that are not broken, and that remedies be applied even before the entire situation is completely understood. This situation is not unlike a cancerous tumor in an otherwise healthy family member; the rogue officers are the tumor, Rampart is the healthy body, and the Department is the family. As with any other tumor, the removal must be done carefully so as to ensure that good tissue is not harmed, and that follow-up treatment is not taken until there has been a complete diagnosis. The Chief has his hands full and needs your support. And continued superb performance. In educating elected officials and community officials with the need to reserve judgment and recommended remedies until all the facts are known.

The Los Angeles Police Department is among the nation's premier agencies, and the City of Los Angeles is a better and safer place because of the dedication and hard work of its personnel. This reality is not altered by the individual horrific acts of several rogue officers. Do not let anybody cause you to think differently.

(Keith Bushey is a Deputy Chief with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. He previously served with the Los Angeles Police Department, retiring in 1996 as a Commander with 31 years of service.)

★ ★ ★

#### To: Editor, L.A. Times

As the father of an LAPD officer who puts his life on the line for you and all citizens of Los Angeles, I am personally offended by the "defective" badge cartoon in the Times today.

I will no longer advertise, buy or read the Times.

Regretfully,  
Michael Bluestein

★ ★ ★

#### The Question...

The question will arise over and over, What happened in Rampart? And there will never be a definitive answer. Sure administrators will theorize and point to this absence of an administrative process or they will point in another direction. But who can actually say what caused the moral disintegration of a group of young men who when they first put the uniform on what they are accused of doing was the furthest thing from their minds?

Years ago, a movie was made called "Prince of the City," starring Treat Williams. It's a chronicle of corruption in a small narcotic unit responsible for investigating with citywide jurisdiction. It's a movie that should be shown to a police recruit class to point out how quickly power corrupts.

Powers of arrest are given to young police officers as soon as they take their oath, and it's kept until they retire. It's an awesome responsibility for a young per-

son to have, and if it isn't properly controlled and regulated, it's so easy to gain control of the mind, and soon objectivity is lost and the mind is corrupted. Soon the term to accomplish the mission—lower crime stats, put the bad guy in jail at any cost—results in corruption of judgment, corruption of objectivity, and most of all, corruption of integrity. For the most important principle in police officers' mental makeup is integrity. Without it, a police officer is but a sell with a badge, gun, club, and no heart or spirit. He becomes a mindless thug who is involved in a path down a tunnel vision roadway with only one objective, and eventually is corrupted by the power.

There is no greater power than to take one's liberty away, or to legally kill a person under the authority of a police officer. It's a power not fully realized by young police officers because they are so closely involved and that's why strong, effective supervision is essential and necessary to keep young officers' feet on the ground.

I can remember as a young officer I brought a "bad guy" who I thought was scum of the earth. I mean this guy was out at 4 o'clock in the morning, driving aimlessly with a car not registered to him and a crowbar next to him. He had previous burglary arrests (no convictions) and he was a hype (user of narcotic intravenously, commonly used to describe heroin addicts). I thought this guy was a burglar and under state law demonstrated enough probable cause I could throw him in jail (for then in the '60s, 72 hours). That's power. But fortunately for the system, there were good sergeants, lieutenants, and some pretty good detectives who brought "young tigers" down to earth and told me what the law is really about.

Thirty years ago I attended a "leadership" seminar given by then Commander Charles "Charlie" Reese. It was he who first pointed out: Your main duties are to protect the troops in the field, protect them from their own aggressiveness. Two things stick in my mind: 1) At the end of a pursuit, act as if the entire world is watching; 2) In log writing never point out a problem without an answer. This is supervision. To bring order out of chaos and stabilize the situation. To be an effective supervisor without overbearing, to be a teacher, to make your people more effective than you. Not love you—respect you.

These young men in Rampart are under investigation because they were allowed to have uncontrolled power. No accountability. They were out there to get the job done at any cost. I learned a long time ago, a lesson which almost was disastrous, don't give blind, open-ended instructions without parameters and effective counter-measures to examine these parameters.

Six years prior to my retirement, I began to notice a shortage of Field Supervisors in the field. Sergeants were not rolling on calls. By asking some sergeants the reason, their response was that they had too many projects with due dates. Projects which were given to them by their lieutenants, who in turn got them from their captain I, which was passed down to them by his captain III. The area or bureau chief made sure that there were enough projects to go around, no sergeants in the field, and when they did go out it was only for a couple of hours.

Direction, accountability, leadership and discipline are requirements for effective supervision that I strongly suspect were lacking with these Rampart officers. I don't know, I wasn't there. But in situations when there is a breakdown of integrity, the above elements are missing.

The Los Angeles Police Department is not corrupt. Some of its people just fell out of cadence while marching into battle, and they are casualties of war. That's the price that is paid when young people are put in harm's way with ineffective leadership. It will happen again as sure as our worlds will always be at war. For we never seem to learn by our mistakes.

In the late '50s, the Morning Watch crew in West Los Angeles Division was implicated in a series of well-orchestrated burglaries. It was widespread that while Internal Affairs officers were driving to the one officer's house, they could see smoke billowing from his chimney. He was burning furniture that was stolen during a business burglary. He was destroying evidence. It was the middle of summer. Rotation of Watch began to eliminate that type of activity. If that was the answer, the supervisors certainly forgot in Hollywood, thirty years later. This time they tried to blame ineffective supervision. All involved officers were regular Morning Watch. There have been other episodes of corruption: Central Vice in early '60s, and Hollywood Det. in 1970. It all averages out, every few years, and in every situation there was a marked lack of supervision.

In the Rampart case who is to blame: the lieutenant who is now retired, or the captain? In Rodney King, everybody blamed then Chief Daryl Gates. If you want to follow that path, Chief Bernard

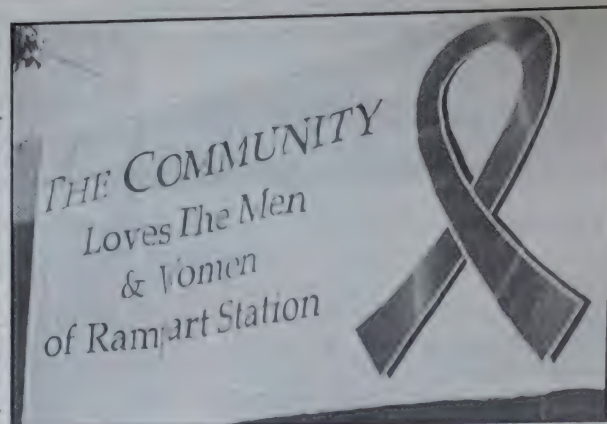


photo by Dennis P. Zine

Parks should go, but that won't happen. Reason being, he is popular with politicians and also he is a minority. But somebody has to take the hit for this monstrous failure. It amazes me that the politicians of this city will scream bloody murder when the police fall down on their face and come up mired in mud from the dirt that they deal with. But watch the apologist at work when it's one of their own caught on tape buying narcotics, or fail to pass a dope test. How quickly they rally to their side, citing emotional difficulties in their life. This is the example we have to contribute to these fine young people whom we have out on the point. And when they err, how quickly they chop their legs out from under them. "Yesterday's Heroes," today's "Goat."

When the politicians look to place blame, look upward. Then come down, for the blame lies at their own feet.

Chris Biller  
Retired Detective/Sergeant

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## STATEMENT OF POLICY

THE LOS ANGELES POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE AFFIRMS ITS LONG-STANDING POLICY OPPOSING RACISM, SEXISM AND USE OF EXCESSIVE FORCE.

■ ■ ■

THE LEAGUE STANDS BY ITS EXEMPLARY RECORD OF AGGRESSIVELY DEFENDING ALL MEMBERS REGARDLESS OF RACE, SEX, ETHNICITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR CULTURAL BACKGROUND.

■ ■ ■

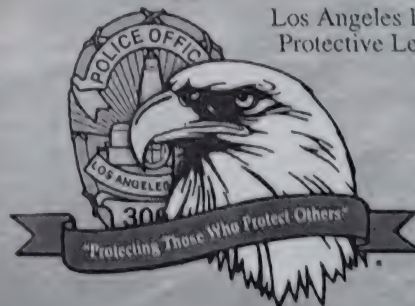
THROUGH ITS BYLAWS, THE POLICE PROTECTIVE LEAGUE IS GOVERNED BY ISSUES OF FACT.

■ ■ ■

THE BYLAWS CLEARLY PROVIDE FOR DISCRETIONARY REPRESENTATION OF MEMBERS, WHO, IN THE COURSE AND SCOPE OF THEIR DUTY PERFORMANCE, ACT IN GOOD FAITH WITHOUT MALICE, FRAUD OR OPPRESSION.

■ ■ ■

WE ENCOURAGE OUR MEMBERS TO ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HIGHEST ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.



Los Angeles Police  
Protective League





# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Letters may be limited to 350 words or less. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

Dear Editor:

I am an 11-year veteran of the LAPD, and as such I have a great respect for Chief Bernie Parks and tend to agree with him more than I disagree on law enforcement matters. Unfortunately, at a recent monthly news conference, Chief Parks decided to take the podium and emulate uninformed local, state, and federal politicians by making statements about the NRA that are not based on fact but on emotion. Chief Parks said that the NRA promotes "gun violence in the United States."

Chief Parks is both wrong and misinformed. As a law enforcement officer who is also a life member of the NRA, I can say that I am very picky about the organizations that I join. The NRA has been a friend to law enforcement and law abiding citizens in the United States since 1871. As a law enforcement officer and member, if I am killed in the line of duty, the NRA will pay my family \$25,000 in life insurance coverage in addition to my other benefits, as part of my membership. The NRA has trained thousands of law enforcement officers in firearm safety and helped improve their shooting skills. Chief Parks' LAPD has had the honor of having many of its own officers win NRA-sponsored shooting competitions many times over. The NRA also has numerous programs in place that promote gun safety and self-defense to law abiding citizens.

One such program is the Eddie Eagle program that places law enforcement officers as role models in the schools to teach kids what to do if they should find a gun in the home or at other places accessible to kids. The LAPD is NOT one of the many police departments nationwide that participate in this worthwhile program. Teaching kids about the importance of staying away from firearms is just as important as teaching

kids to stay away from drugs, like the DARE program does. The NRA also sponsors the Hunters For The Hungry program where hunters donate food to food banks in their communities so that the poor can have something to eat in their time of need.

The NRA organization that I joined has been and always will be an organization that supports legislation and enforcement of gun laws that keep criminals from owning or possessing guns. The NRA has been a proponent of maximum sentencing and no parole for criminals that use guns in the commission of a crime, and many times has had to rally its members in some communities, when murderers were about to be released on parole after serving a fraction of their sentences. The NRA I joined is not an organization that supports criminals in any way, shape or form, but supports the law abiding in the enjoyment of their constitutional rights.

I take exception with Chief Parks when he uses the tactic used by his agency's critics and paints the millions of law abiding NRA members, many of them fellow law enforcement and military personnel, with the broad brush that says they are part of an organization that promotes gun violence. I sincerely hope that there is an organization out there called the National (criminal) Recidivists Association, and that Chief Parks' comments were addressed at them.

Sincerely,  
Sgt. André Belotto, #26189  
Newton Patrol Division

To: Dennis Zine, LAPPL  
Dear Dennis:

My right to due process has been violated, as well as the right to due process of many of my fellow officers.

I am a very dedicated department employee. I currently have 9-1/2 years on the job and prior to S.O.1. I had only two personnel complaints. Since then I have had eight or nine.

All of these complaints are from gang members (except one from a fired department employee, which came back as no misconduct). Gang members are dumb but they are not stupid. They know if they call the duty room their complaint is taken with "no questions asked." I am currently preparing to file a small claims action against two complainants. During the preparation I wondered why the department had not attempted to file a 148.6 PC (criminal charge for filing a false complaint), since both complaints were unfounded and the department felt the complaints were because I was doing my job and the complaints were an attempt to have me reassigned.

While reading the Penal Code I noticed Section 148.6 (2). Basically it read that a police department *shall* have a complainant read and sign the false complaint advisement form prior to taking a complaint.

On the first complaint the divisional sergeant did a non-recorded telephonic interview. On the second complaint the divisional sergeant was unable to contact the complainant and he was not interviewed.

If my reading of the Penal Code section is correct, a complaint should not receive a CF number until the complainant reads and signs the advisement form, let alone an entire complaint is adjudicated without the advisement form being signed.

If my logic is correct this is a violation of my right to due process and should be actionable. What I would like the League to do is see if this is actionable and if it is I would like to seek redress. A nice outcome would be a change in policy requiring that the duty room calls be recorded and that the department follow the law.

I hope you can understand the position the Department has put me in. I love my job and use every legal avenue to put criminal gang members in jail. With the eruption in Rampart I am sure officers like me will be thrust into serious scrutiny. While in a rational world that would not scare me, in LAPD '99 it does. When will the Department start to think that these complaints have merit, your guess is as good as mine. When will they start to use these as a pattern of conduct, I still don't know. I really need the League's help now before I turn into a horror story. After all, I work CRASH. I am expendable to the Department.

Am I expendable to you?

(Officer's name withheld at request of author. Officer was referred to a League attorney for assistance.)

Dear Sirs:

In December of 1998 my father-in-law passed away. In his will he named my wife as executrix. With the many laws and procedures involving wills and probate my wife knew she would need the services of an attorney. A fellow officer advised me that the Protective League would assist her in this matter. I contacted the League office and explained the situation and within an hour I was called back and given the name of a probate attorney. I was also

told that we would have a free counseling session.

The attorney we were referred to was a Mr. A. Martin Lybrand. Upon calling Mr. Lybrand's office an appointment was made for the following day. From the beginning, my wife and I could both see that Mr. Lybrand was a professional and very knowledgeable.

Probate usually takes twelve to eighteen months on the average, sometimes much longer if not handled properly. Through his hard work and dedication, Mr. Lybrand completed the process in seven months. During the course of the seven months my wife had to meet with Mr. Lybrand on several occasions to sign court documents. Mr. Lybrand's office is in downtown Los Angeles (50 miles one way from our residence). Mr. Lybrand was kind enough to meet half way in the Valley to save my wife the hundred mile journey.

My wife and I would like to thank the Protective League for their quick response to our request for assistance, and to let the League know what an outstanding job Mr. Lybrand did.

Sincerely,  
Walter B. Thornhill  
West Valley Area

Dear Everyone at the League:

Please publish this as soon as possible. I just want to inform the membership of the problems that I've had. Correspondence is going to the Deferred Compensation board.

I want to take this opportunity to inform the membership of two serious problems that I've had with our new Deferred Compensation managing corporation, Great West. These mistakes could cost you money. I would like other members to carefully document any contact they have in order to ensure that Great West lives up to its sales pitch.

Prior to the changeover in our Deferred Compensation plan occurring, I attended the meeting offered near my residence to learn what the plan would encompass and what the new company was about. Among other things, I learned that my existing mutual fund would be rolled over into a similar account with the new company. All assets would be frozen for a certain time period, until July 15, 1999.

After the freeze was lifted, twice I telephonically contacted the new company and requested a prospectus for the new fund ("Aetna Institutional Fund"). It was twice because after 7-10 days elapsed the first time, I called again. Both times I was told that Great West is having difficulty obtaining them from Aetna. The Securities and Exchange Commission has required since 1933 that equity fund companies provide a prospectus to potential customers so the customers can make informed decisions as to whether to invest in a particular fund or not. I couldn't locate the fund on the Aetna Web site, either. I know that some institutional funds are not generally available to the public, but are for privately-managed pensions. The fund is actually called Aeltus Enhanced Core Equity Fund (Aeltus is a subsidiary of Aetna).

Earlier last month I contacted the Web master for Benefits Corp, as you cannot

continued on next page

## END OF WATCH



NAME: George M. Bell #5310  
RANK: Investigator III  
ASSIGNED TO: OCID  
BORN: September 26, 1919  
APPT: February 16, 1948  
RETIRED: February 22, 1975  
DIED: August 10, 1999

★ ★ ★

NAME: Desmond M. Rea #1664  
RANK: Lieutenant  
ASSIGNED TO: B.O.D.  
BORN: September 9, 1906  
APPT: May 23, 1933  
RETIRED: July 14, 1967  
DIED: September 10, 1999

★ ★ ★

NAME: Charles Bestwick #3047  
RANK: Policeman  
ASSIGNED TO: Harbor  
BORN: November 11, 1911  
APPT: August 24, 1942  
RETIRED: September 9, 1972  
DIED: September 18, 1999

★ ★ ★

NAME: Robert B. Davidson #3398  
RANK: Policeman  
ASSIGNED TO: West Valley  
BORN: April 9, 1918  
APPT: February 4, 1946  
RETIRED: April 4, 1966  
DIED: September 23, 1999

★ ★ ★

NAME: Donald F. Jones #2605  
RANK: Police Officer II  
ASSIGNED TO: Communications  
BORN: March 16, 1910  
APPT: December 15, 1941  
RETIRED: March 18, 1973  
DIED: September 24, 1999





## Letters to the Editor

continued from page 16

contact a representative directly, even though the Web site offers that option. I was told on September 16th that someone would contact me for this request. As you may guess, that hasn't happened yet.

My next problem is that I had a 5-year CD that matured August 15, 1999. On August 13 I had telephonically contacted Benefits Corp. and told the representative to roll it into a mutual fund that I had selected. Two days prior to a meeting with my tax advisor, I checked my account and learned that I had a huge CD—the company had not acted upon my request. This is also an SEC violation. On September 10, I contacted the Benefits Corp. to find out what happened to my request. They would have to conduct an investigation that would take 7 to 10 days. I gave them the date and the name of the representative with whom I made the request. I discussed this problem with a supervisor on September 30th, and the problem was finally corrected on October 4th.

In conclusion, I would suggest that if you can go meet with a deferred account representative in person, do so. Get copies of any and all documents from that visit. Document the nature of your call.

The SEC indicates that an investor who wishes to make a complaint to them must first address correspondence to the compliance officer of the accused company and request a response in writing within 30 days. I am doing so.

If anyone else has problems similar to mine, please provide correspondence to the Deferred Compensation Board as I am doing. I don't know if there are others with similar problems, but the Board should be notified. Why? Because this company has a contract with the city of L.A., and if they are always not only this incompetent, but operating unlawfully,

they may lose the contract next time around. It's YOUR money. They are supposed to manage it for you by law. Thanks.

Regards,  
David A. Kaufman, #20036 (Retired)

Dear Blue Line Editor:

Several months ago Police Officer I Tim Leonard was looking forward to finishing his probationary period and becoming a full-fledged Los Angeles Police Officer. One day his wife awoke with severe headaches and went to the hospital for an exam. Within two days after undergoing surgery, she was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer, devastating the happy life they shared together.

As Tim was forced to make life and death decisions on his wife's behalf, his father, a retired police officer, came to his son's aid. While keeping vigil at the hospital during the first few weeks of this tragic turn of events, Tim's father suffered a heart attack in the hospital as he stood by his daughter-in-law's side.

Tim's father subsequently recovered, but Tim's wife Samantha has been diagnosed as terminal with only six months to a year to live depending on treatment alternatives. However, as befitting such a strong family, the will to survive and conquer fate continues to grow each new day.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all Los Angeles Police Officers and to some outstanding people in particular. After becoming aware of this tragedy, the outpouring of support was nothing short of phenomenal. This letter flounders in insignificance compared to the generosity shown by all of you. Nevertheless, I would like to thank Captain R. McNamara who procured funds for the steak fry that was held after our annual inspection last month. His gracious assistance and concern provided an opportunity that garnered substantial funds for Officer Leonard. I offer my sincere gratitude to Sergeant P. Anderson who organized and cooked the best steak fry I've ever tasted. Sergeant R. Thomas is the Van Nuys Morning Watch Commander. Without him and the entire morning watch crew, this fundraiser may well have lost impetus months ago. Thanks should also be extended to Sergeant D. Zine at the League who continues to add his considerable knowledge and expertise in helping ensure Tim gets help from various city and departmental entities. Sergeant Iddi from North Hollywood CRASH deserves much gratitude for his help also. I must also thank the members of Tim's academy class, 5-98 as well as his old reserve class for their financial and moral support. And anyone who knows Sergeant Dave Cueto is aware of his leadership and concern for his fellow officers. Without his inspirational guidance throughout, this drive to help an officer in need would simply not have succeeded.

Finally, I would like to extend my heartfelt and deepest gratitude to all the officers, detectives, civilians and command staff of the Los Angeles Police Department for their generous contributions and advice. Ultimately, it is all of you that will make a crucial difference in the lives of two fine people during their dire time of need.

Recently we again find ourselves and our Department thrust into a dark malaise of debility and loss of faith. And yet, as that debacle continues to run its course in the media and in political circles, it is the far more significant plight of a fellow officer that takes precedence and shows what the LAPD is truly made of.

Sincerely,  
Sergeant Walt Teague #27451  
Van Nuys Patrol

## Hunt

continued from page 3

opened lines of communication with Chief Parks and his staff and will do whatever we can to help get to the bottom of this, because we know that it is not widespread.

No police officer wants dirty cops on the job. This incident is like an infected pimple. Small, painful, and visible. When an officer goes bad, he or she not only violates the law, they violate the trust that we have in each other and the sacred trust that we have been given by the people of California.

## Morgan

continued from page 5

This is a knee jerk reaction of someone who suggested a quick fix to a perceived problem, that has nothing to do with the issue at hand. The matter will be addressed by the Protective League. The current changes requested do fall under the "MOU," under change in working conditions. This may sound like a minor issue to some, but the cost of replacing uniform equipment, Sam Brown belts, weapon holsters, ammo pouches, handcuff holders, etc. Is very costly and is the purpose of this directive honestly an answer to the problem?

## Closing Comment!

I urge each of you to keep up the good work you do on a daily basis, don't let your morale be destroyed by the actions of a few. The community we serve has rallied behind you and does appreciate your efforts each and every day. We are one of the greatest law enforcement agencies in the world and times like this show our dedication and commitment to those we serve.

## Zine

continued from page 6

cal, dental, and life insurance benefits. Stay the course and we will all win.

## Elections

I was very gratified with the recent election results. The number of voting members was very impressive and is a reflection of just how much interest there is in your League. We have built a solid and effective League for you with our Sacramento and City Hall relationships. It's nice to know that someone cares about what we do and how we do it. I wish to thank the majority of Sergeants who voted for me in the primary election. This victory is humbling for me. I know I work hard and I am thankful that others recognized my energetic, enthusiastic, and productive efforts.

The general election ballots will be distributed the first Tuesday in November. I encourage all of you to vote. Your vote is important and does count.

In the general election, all ranks vote for all candidates.

## IAG Duty Room

I recently visited the IAG duty room at the Bradbury Building. I was making my rounds at various divisions checking on morale and issues for the next contract. I was surprised to learn from two veteran investigators that the 1.28 complaints they were receiving on the telephone were being generated by people in jail and prison. Can you imagine that a person in state prison would make a complaint against one of our very own officers or detectives for violating their rights, planting evidence, or doing a number of other illegal activities to put the criminal behind bars? It's now the craze for criminals serving time in prison to file complaints against our members

for doing their job. With the absurd 1.28 system the Department has in place, more time will be spent investigating dead-end complaints than policing the City. It is past time to modify the 1.28 program. Your League has been working with the Department to revamp the system. Like everything else the Department does, it will take considerable time to change that which everyone knows is wrong. Hang in there. We will get it done.

## Internet Information

Like many of you, I spend time on the Net completing various projects. I came across some law enforcement Web sites that may interest you. I am providing them for your review:

[www.apbonline.com](http://www.apbonline.com)

The site provides crime news in the United States. A live police scanner tracks 10 cities and reports incidents with a Real Audio Player.

[www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)

The site features informative crime statistics (good for those interesting FAS-TRAC meetings), and provides useful information about the Ten Most Wanted, letter bomb investigations, stolen art, and other federal crimes.

If you are a detective, you may want to try out this one:

[www.crimemagazine.com](http://www.crimemagazine.com)

This documents crimes and related issues in a methodical manner.

A good one for neighborhood watch meetings is the following:

[www.ncpc.org](http://www.ncpc.org)

This site is the home of McGruff the Crime Dog. Information includes how to form neighborhood watch groups and offers proactive concepts.

This one is for Criminology and Criminal Justice.

[www.geocities.com/](http://www.geocities.com/)

This is the place to do sociological research. The criminology pages link to hundreds of resources on crime, statistics and theory. A good one for your Criminal Justice school projects.

Lastly, we have two of our own sites for your pleasure:

[www.lapdonline.org](http://www.lapdonline.org)

This is the Departments' very own site.

[www.lapd.com](http://www.lapd.com)

A very valuable site with interesting information about the Department.

This is the League's site. It features 20/20 message information and a number of other interesting links.

You can always contact me on the Web at [zman8910@aol.com](mailto:zman8910@aol.com)

I will promptly reply to your questions and concerns.

If you know of other good law enforcement sites that you would like to share with your fellow Blue Line readers, send it to me and I will post it and acknowledge you.

## Dates to Remember

November 25<sup>th</sup> is Thanksgiving Day. Use this day to thank your family and friends for putting up with your stressful and demanding profession.

CITY OF EL SEGUNDO

### LATERAL POLICE OFFICER \$4,394 - \$5,341 per month (incl. 9% PERS) (applications accepted on continuous basis)

Are you an officer seeking recognition and support in a challenging work environment? Then why "start over" when the ESPD respects & understands the needs of lateral officers & can offer you an innovative lateral benefits package. ESPD provides a \$2,000 Transfer Bonus & may allow you to transfer up to 960 sick leave hrs.; vacation accrual based on your years of sworn law enforcement experience; special assignment pay up to \$210 mo.; city provided uniforms and safety equipment plus \$325/yr. uniform allowance; 96 holiday hrs. paid annually; educational incentive pay up to 18%; 100% educational reimbursement; physical fitness incentive; City paid PERS retirement plan (2% at 50, single highest year); \$429/mo. toward PERS Health Insurance Program (increases to \$456/mo eff. 1/1/2000); paid family optical/dental/life; paid retiree medical insurance at same coverage level as at time of retirement; \$4,000 interest-free PC loan program; Flex Spending Plan (pre-tax dollar program); deferred compensation; Credit Union membership & more.

**REQUIREMENTS:** must be currently employed as a peace officer with a CA county, city, or agency for a minimum of 1 year & possess a Basic POST Certificate. Must attach a copy of cert. at time of application filing.

**FOR A DETAILED JOB BROCHURE & APPLICATION, CALL CITY'S 24-HOUR JOB LINE, (310) 607-2220. Must submit application w/City of El Segundo Human Resources Department, 350 Main Street, El Segundo, CA 90245, (310) 322-4670, ext. 204.**



# COMMENDABLE COPPER CAPERS

**Ofcr. Scott Carty, #31639**  
**Ofcr. Chris Mason, #32385**  
**77th Division**

On June 20, 1999, an off-duty LAPD sergeant was visiting family members in 77th Street Division. As she was pulling into her brother's driveway, she was approached from the rear by a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. The vehicle then locked up its brakes and skidded into a parked van parked at the curb.

The suspect then exited his car and began demanding payment for damage to his vehicle. The suspect began to yell, "I don't care what it takes, I'll come and get you and your family."

Several neighbors then approached the suspect and attempted to calm him down. One of the witnesses even attempted to dissuade the suspect by advising him that the victim was a police officer with the LAPD.

Despite these warnings, the suspect continued to threaten both the off-duty sergeant and her family.

The suspect then fled the scene in an attempt to evade arrest.

Follow-up investigation led to the identification of the suspect from his moniker. The suspect was identified as an Eight-Trey Hoover Gang member with an extensive criminal history. This information was forwarded to officers of the 77th Street Career Criminals Unit who began their investigation in ear-

**Ofcr. Mike Martinez, #31675**  
**Ofcr Mike Ventura, #30741**

nest. Officers conducted a search of the suspect's home and recovered a 12-gauge shotgun and an AK-47 automatic rifle from the suspect's bedroom. Unfortunately, the suspect was not home. Officers' investigative skills led them to a follow-up at the girlfriend's residence.

Upon tactically setting up on the residence, the suspect attempted to escape from a rear window. He was met by Officer Ventura who immediately gave verbal commands to the suspect to raise his hands. The suspect did not comply and retreated back inside. He then attempted to exit a side door, only to be met by Officer Mason. In a last ditch attempt to escape, he charged the front door and engaged awaiting officers Carty and Martinez. These officers overcame the suspect's resistance and took him into custody without further incident. Officers then cleared the residence and recovered a .38 caliber revolver from the rear bedroom where the suspect first attempted to escape from.

Officers are commended for their attention to detail, tactical proficiency and diligent efforts in pursuing a violent career criminal and parolee who made the mistake of knowingly threatening an off-duty police officer.

**Sgt. R. Wong, #22968**  
**Ofcr. L. Benson, #27366**  
**Ofcr. R. Vasquez, #34197**  
**Ofcr. C. Barrios, #30694**

**Transit Rail Division, Transit Bus Division**

During the early morning hours of Sept. 9, 1999, Transit Rail Officers Benson and Andrews were on patrol in the area of Western Ave. and Melrose Ave. when they were flagged down by a Department of Transportation officer. The DOT officer directed our officers towards a traffic collision that had occurred only moments earlier.

As Andrews and Benson approached, they saw the suspect vehicle strike the victim's vehicle again and then drive off northbound Western Ave. in an apparent hit and run.

Andrews and Benson activated their emergency equipment in an attempt to detain the suspect and a pursuit ensued. The suspect smashed into another vehicle at Melrose Ave./Western Ave. and the pursuit continued.

Hollywood units responded to the back-up request and supported TRD in the pursuit. Officers Norman and Vasquez (also TRD) were secondary.

The suspect stopped at Griffith Park Blvd./Los Feliz and was non-responsive. The windows were rolled up, and it appeared unsafe for officers to approach.

**Ofcr. R. Andrews, #33891**  
**Ofcr. R. Norman, #34145**  
**Ofcr. M. Ramirez, #33426**

Sgt. Wong responded and requested a bean bag shotgun. Officers Ramirez and Barrios (6X47) responded.

A tactical plan was established in which a flexible baton round would be fired at the rear passenger window to shatter the glass and act as a distraction device while simultaneously allowing entry by the contact/arrest team. The bean bag fired and shattered the glass as expected, but the suspect sped off before the arrest team could approach.

The flex-baton round was again used at Brunswick/Los Feliz and the arrest team was able to disable the vehicle and take the suspect into custody without incident.

The suspect was determined to be in diabetic shock and was unaware of her actions. She was transported to Kanner Hospital.

The officers are commended for their observation skills and professional attitudes. Less astute officers might have missed vital clues causing them to mistake the suspect as a criminal rather than a victim of an acute medical condition.

**Ofcr. E. Larsen, #33792**

**Transit Rail Division, Transit Bus Division**

On Sept. 30, 1999, a radio call was created for Transit Bus Division of 211 Just Occurred at 1 Gateway Plaza. Transit Rail Officer Larsen "jumped" the call and met with the victim, who related the following story.

The victim is a bus operator for MTA and was approached by a suspect who threw a container of human urine in her face. The urine entered the victim's mouth and eyes. The suspect then took the victim's property and fled from the location.

Officer Larsen obtained enough information for an initial crime broadcast, then assisted the victim to the women's locker room at Transit Rail Division.

Officer Larsen assisted the victim in cleaning up by giving her soap and

**Ofcr. K. Dye, #34069**

shampoo. Then because the victim's own clothing had to be booked as evidence, Erin gave the victim a set of her own clothing to wear to the hospital.

Officer Larsen transported the victim to White Memorial Hospital where she was treated and released.

A solid investigation was conducted by Officers Larsen and Dye resulting in S.I.D. responding and lifting eight latent prints that detectives are confident will lead to the capture of the criminal responsible for the attack.

Officer Larsen is commended for his compassion and professionalism in dealing with the traumatized victim of a particularly ugly crime.



## OPERATIONS MANAGER WANTED

The Central City East Association needs an Operations Manager committed to our two downtown Los Angeles Business Improvement District's mission to make the area cleaner and safer.

Proactive, detail oriented, innovative problem solving professional required to lead, train, motivate and monitor our 45 member contract security and maintenance team. Position reports to Executive Director. This is an outside and inside job for a team player. Shift work required to oversee our 24 hour operation seven days per week.

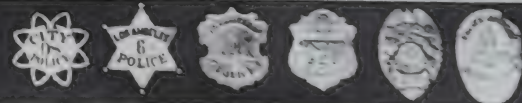
Must be able to interface with people from all walks of life - property owners, tenants, community, government and law enforcement. A strong customer service focus is essential. The Director of Operations will assume responsibilities including:

- Implementation of all field operations components.
- Oversee the day-to-day activities and services provided by the BID for purposes of safety and maintenance.
- Establish protocols and service guidelines and/or sub-contractors providing the services.
- Selection and training of all maintenance and safety personnel.
- Establish work rules and standards.
- Develop deployment schedules for all field personnel providing services to the BID.
- Develop and create personnel practices and productivity measures for all staff and contractors.
- Evaluate program effectiveness and develop new plans to improve services.
- Develop and oversee program budgets consistent with the general budget established by the Board of Directors.
- Develop appropriate liaison with the police department, other public security agencies, and the public works departments in order to coordinate the program of services of the BID's.
- Represent the BID as a senior staff members in dealing with the general public.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Five or more years of supervisory experience at a mid/upper management level required in public safety and/or facility management including all aspects of personnel training, management and productivity. Budget and contract management skills and proven ability to solve complex community problems, document and achieve results. Must have working knowledge of downtown area. Proven ability to work with the private and public sector. Community or tenant relations experience a plus. Demonstrated experience in program implementation, administration and planning, as well as a proven ability as a public speaker and communicator. Bachelors degree preferred-commensurate experience considered. Current or prior police command experience is preferred.

EOE - Women and minorities encouraged to apply. Fax resume and salary history no later than November 15, 1999.

Attn: Tracey Lovejoy, (213) 228-8488. No calls please.



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# FOR YOUR INFORMATION



For Your Information is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

## Officer of the Month Program Recognizes Distinguished Law Enforcement Professionals

**Washington, D.C.**—Each month, since September, 1996, the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF) has selected one law officer who has distinguished him/herself through exemplary service and devotion to duty. Consistent with the NLEOMF mission, this program seeks "to generate increased public support for the law enforcement profession by permanently recording and appropriately commemorating the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers."

According to Craig W. Floyd, the fund's chairman, any duly sworn officer with full arrest powers, who is directly involved in crime control or reduction and is employed on a full-time basis by a federal, state or local law enforcement agency, may be nominated for this prestigious award. The NLEOMF staff reviews all nominations and then forwards the names of the recommended awardees to a committee of NLEOMF board members for final review and approval.

Nominations must be in writing or transmitted electronically using the NLEOMF Web site ([www.nleomf.com](http://www.nleomf.com)) and can be submitted by anyone other than the nominee. A single heroic incident may be worthy of consideration, but special consideration is given to those nominees who have distinguished themselves and their profession throughout their careers. Awards are announced each month and are presented at a luncheon ceremony held in Washington, D.C. during National Police Week in May of each year. Past award winners and their heroic stories are highlighted on the NLEOMF Web site.

Nominations should be mailed to NLEOMF, 605 E. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, Attn: Lee Caudle. Nominations can also be faxed to 202-737-3405, or E-mailed to: [lee8772@aol.com](mailto:lee8772@aol.com).

"The NLEOMF Officer of the Month program gives everyone the opportunity to recognize a law enforcement professional who has



Photo by Peggy Harrison

National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund's 1998-1999 Officers of the Month, May 13, 1999.

touched their lives," said Floyd. We encourage anyone who knows an officer who has made a difference to his/her community through their exemplary service, to nominate that individual for this special honor."

Those honored this past year were: SAIC Linda Finney, MN Department of Public Safety; Chief Carl Baker, Chesterfield (VA) P.D.; Officer Thomas Griffiths, Boston (MA) P.D.; Sgt. Tommy Watts, Rainbow City

(AL) P.D.; Det. Larry Powell, Jefferson County (KY) P.D.; Sgt. Paul Hardy, Essex County (MA) Sheriff's Office; Special Agent Craig Arnold, FBI; Special Agent John J. Frese, State Dept. Bureau of Diplomatic Security; Officer Melvin E. Blunt, Lee Summit (MO) P.D.; Det. Richard "Buck" Henry, LAPD; Chief Jeffery Lieberman, Fountain City (WI) P.D.; and Sgt. Floyd Blanks, Illinois State Police.

**More For Your Information on next page**

## WHEN YOUR EYES ARE YOUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE TURN TO THE VALENCIA EYE INSTITUTE FOR CLEARER VISION

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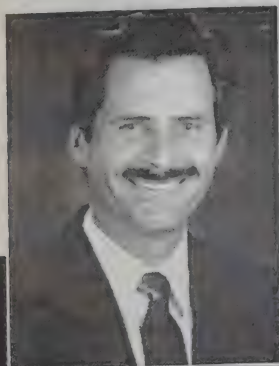
The Valencia Eye Institute offers a "premier" service. Dr. Engh performs your pre-operative exam, surgery and post-operative care, ensuring the best possible results.

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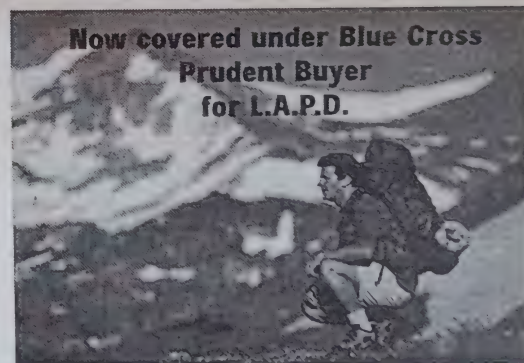


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## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### "Walk of Remembrance"

On Sept. 16, 1999, the Los Angeles Police Historical Society and the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club held a ceremony officially dedicating the "Walk of Remembrance" at Elysian Park Academy. The "Walk" is located at the flagpole and consists of bricks engraved

entered the Academy on Sept. 16, 1947. Robert G. Drees and Robert Peinado entered the Academy on Sept. 16, 1949.

Anyone who is interested in a brick in their name or in the name of a loved one can do so by contacting the Historical Society at 1-877-714-LAPD or (323)



"Walk of Remembrance" - base of flag pole.

with the names of LAPD officers who served the Department with honor and integrity.

Guests at the ceremony included retired and current members of LAPD and/or their family members, who have purchased a brick. Roberta Reddick first

344-9445. Applications can also be picked up at the Academy restaurant. Information on joining the Historical Society is also available at the above telephone numbers.

Let's take pride in being members of the best department in the world!

### "Above And Beyond" Officer Cindy Brining's Gift Of Life

by Gail Ryan

To "protect and serve" is the motto of the Los Angeles Police Department that every officer adheres to from the first day on the job. But it is the few that are ever called to actually save a life and even rarer that an officer is asked to give up a part of his/her body to save a life of a complete stranger.

On November 14, 1999, Officer Cindy Brining, #31407, volunteered to become a bone marrow donor with the National Marrow Donor Program out of Santa Ana, Calif. In early September, 1999, a match to Cindy's bone marrow was found. A middle-aged woman living in Arizona, who was only given a 1-2% chance of survival, needed Cindy's bone marrow immediately if she was to have a chance to live. Cindy was contacted by the National Marrow Donor Program and asked to give the "Gift of Life" to a stranger. Cindy said, "Yes."

On September 21, 1999, Cindy's bone marrow was harvested at a hospital in Southern California. Even though the harvest procedure is considered an outpatient surgery, it is not without risks or dangers to the donor patient. The procedure requires the patient to be put under while the marrow is taken from the hip area. Once the surgery is completed, the donor patient requires several days of rest for a complete and safe recovery. Cindy received no compensation for her donation and used to own sick time for the operation.

Once Cindy's marrow was harvested, it was transferred immediately to the ill patient in Arizona. The transfer was a success and today this same patient is being given a 50% chance at life. This is a dramatic increase thanks to Cindy's "gift of life."

Officer Cindy Brining has recovered and is now back to work full time. She recently transferred from Newton



Cindy Brining.

CRASH to work as a DARE officer for the Department. She is to be congratulated for her unselfishness in putting her life on the line in helping to save the life of a stranger in need.

If anyone is interested in sharing the "gift of life" and becoming a marrow donor, they can contact National Marrow Donor Program at 1-800-MARROW-2 or visit their Web site at <http://www.marrow.org>.

### For Your Information

On May 29, 1999, Cadet Stephanie Secosky graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army. She majored in American Legal Studies and Systems Engineering. She earned her Airborne Badge and was selected to attend the 1997 World Scholar-Athlete Games as an instructor. As a Firstie, she was on the Board of Directors for the Firstie Club and served as a Cadet "Defense Rep." She played Varsity Women's Basketball and was on the Dean's List. Lieutenant Secosky branched Transportation and is a Graduate Assistant assigned to the Army Football Team as a Strength/Conditioning Coach.

Lt. Secosky's sister, Sindie, is a Third Year Cadet at West Point. Last year she passed the Aviation Exam for Helicopter School. This past summer, Sindie



Sindie (L) and Stephanie (R) Secosky.

earned her Airborne Badge. Stephanie and Sindie are the daughters of Detective Stanley Secosky of Detective Headquarters Division.

The Department of  
Water and Power  
invites you  
to come and celebrate  
the spirit of the holidays  
at the

### 1999 DWP & Griffith Park Holiday Light Festival

NIGHTLY  
Nov. 26 to Dec. 26, 5:00-10:30 p.m.  
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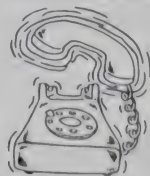
In commemoration of its commitment and years of continued service to the people of Los Angeles, the DWP, along with the Department of Recreation & Parks, wishes to make your holiday season bright with a spectacular lighting extravaganza!

Take a stroll on the walking path or drive through this Winter Wonderland of lights. To avoid crowds on weekends, weekday (Monday-Thursday) attendance is encouraged.



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(Just North of Roscoe)

### Wanted Los Angeles Police Officers For A New Television Series: "Alternatives to Violence"

Due to the recent barrage of violent youth crimes in Colorado, Georgia and in Los Angeles, a Hollywood director and producer have decided to put together a television series, which will address the issue of youth violence. The series will highlight Los Angeles Police Officers and Detectives (active and retired) who have come in contact with youthful offenders of serious crimes. If you have had an interesting case, which you would be willing to appear in a television series, please contact Fred Tredy at 626-913-3195. The series is scheduled to air in April.

More For Your Information on page 22





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You may also mail this form to the P.R.I.D.E.<sup>®</sup> Program, 2042 Armacost Avenue, Los Angeles, CA, 90025



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### Public Pensions and Survivor Benefits

As reported in the July issue of the *Washington Report*, many provisions of the "Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act of 1999," H.R. 1102, introduced by Congressmen Rob Portman (R-OH) and Ben Cardin (D-MD), are contained in the broader tax-cut legislation H.R. 2488, the "Taxpayer Refund and Relief Act of 1999." Both the House and Senate passed H.R. 2488, before the Congressional recess on August 5, 1999. The provisions contained in H.R. 2488, if passed into law, would enhance the portability and preservation of retirement benefits and allow for stronger funding of pension plans. The bill is scheduled to reach the President's desk sometime this week.

However, the President has promised to veto H.R. 2488, the \$792 billion tax package. Senate Republicans indicated that if the President vetoes H.R. 2488 then tax-cut legislation for this year would not happen. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-MS) indicated

that a compromise on this legislation before the end of the year is unlikely. Please call Mike Trough at the NAPO office to learn more about public pension provisions included in H.R. 2488 that are beneficial to law enforcement officers.

#### Survivor Benefits

Also included in H.R. 2488 is a provision that would amend current law to exempt taxation of survivor benefits for public safety officers killed in the line of duty, effective for officers who died after December 31, 1996. With the help of Congressman Jim Ramstad (R-MN) and Senator Daniel Moynihan (D-NY), NAPO included language in H.R. 2488 which would prospectively exempt survivors of officers killed in the line of duty from paying taxes on death benefits, regardless of when an officer was killed.

(N.A.P.O. Washington Report, September 19, 1999.)

### Project Blue Light for the Holidays

#### National Organization Encourages Show of Support for Law Enforcement

**Camdenton, MO, September 30, 1999**— Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. (COPS) is asking concerned citizens and law enforcement agencies nationwide to again support Project Blue Light during the upcoming holiday season.

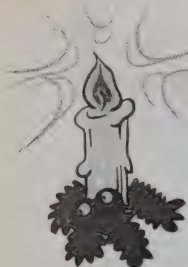
Several years ago, Mrs. Dolly Craig, the surviving mother-in-law of Daniel Gleason, a Philadelphia (PA) police officer killed in the line of duty in 1986, sent her Christmas message to the COPS National office. Her daughter Pam, the surviving widow of Officer Gleason, had been killed in a car accident in August 1988, before the holiday season. Dolly wrote, "This holiday I'm putting two blue lights in my living room window. One is for Dan and the other is for Pam, who believed so much in the COPS organization."

Dolly Craig is now deceased as

well, but her idea is her legacy. Project Blue Light burns bright in the hearts of the nearly 10,000 surviving families who comprise the COPS organization, a national non-profit that assists the surviving families of officers killed in the line of duty as they rebuild their shattered lives.

From a single blue porch light to entire shopping centers outlined in blue, thousands of blue lights shine nationwide during the holiday season to honor and remember those law enforcement officers who have given their lives in service to the profession. The blue lights also thank those men and women of the badge who continue to serve and protect their communities.

For more information about Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc., or to support COPS' programs for survivors and law enforcement agencies, contact COPS at PO Box 3199, Camdenton, MO 65020, (573) 346-4911, or visit [www.nationalcops.org](http://www.nationalcops.org).



### Electrifying Speech Given by the General

by Seymour Rosen  
LAPD Reserves

Graduation of 34 officers, under the direction of Lt. John Desmond (Class



Major General C.L. Stanley, Commanding General of the U.S. Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty-Nine Palms, California, speaker at the Reserve Graduation ceremony for 1999.

of 10-98R which included L.A. City Park Rangers and Class of 6-99R), was

held in the gymnasium at the Police Academy, Sept. 22, 1999, at 5:00 p.m.

Introducing the guests was Betty Kelepecz, Commander Personnel Group. The commencement address was given by Martin H. Pomeroy, Deputy Chief, who also awarded the graduation diplomas to the reserve officers.

Special guest speaker was Major General C. L. Stanley, Commanding General of the U.S. Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty Nine Palms, Calif., who gave an electrifying speech to the graduates and their families during the evening ceremony. Performing for the graduation was the USMC Concert Band of the Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty Nine Palms, Calif.

Also speaking at the graduation was the Mayor's Special Assistant, Tom LaBonge, who represented the city of Los Angeles and the General Manager of the Department of Recreation and Parks, Ellen Oppenheim.

Also present were commanding officers of various divisions. President of class 10-99R was Leo O. Norris; the President of Class 6-99R was Peter Feldman.

Seymour Rosen, Vice President, LAPD Reserve Foundation, was responsible for inviting the General and the Band as participants and guests.

### National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund Eligible for CFC Donations

The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOMF), a nonprofit organization honoring the service and sacrifice of law enforcers across America, has announced that it is a participating charity in this year's national Combined Federal Campaign (CFC).

Federal, military and postal employees can make donations to NLEOMF by designating their donation to CFC agency number 1116. This is the eighth straight year NLEOMF has participated in the CFC. Last year, NLEOMF received approximately \$100,000 in CFC pledges, and over the past six years CFC donations to the Memorial Fund have totaled more than \$600,000.

"CFC contributions have long been a vital source of revenue for our organization," declared Memorial chairman Craig W. Floyd. "As a nonprofit organization that receives no government funding, we rely exclusively on CFC donations and other private gifts to support the important work that we do."

According to Mr. Floyd, CFC donations will be used to add new names of fallen officers to the Memorial, assist in the monument's long-term maintenance, and help keep the Memorial Visitors Center operating year-round. These donations will also support NLEOMF's efforts to promote law enforcement safety and to expand the Memorial's museum to a Smithsonian level of excellence, he added.

### Mystery Cop Photo



This Mystery Motor Cop is \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Name the officer—first correct caller wins a League logo package.  
Last month's winner: Ron Terrazas, Metro Division)

Legendary Ladies -

Mark your Calendar...

We know how busy it gets around the Holidays  
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*Holiday Tea*

*at the Ritz Carlton Pasadena  
Sunday, December 12, 1999 at 1:00 pm.*

The cost will be approximately \$35.00 with special rates for LAWPOA members.  
(Now is a great time to join if you are not already a member.  
\$15 for annual Associate Membership)

We would appreciate knowing how many Ladies are considering attending.  
Please call us soon at 213-228-9199 with your name and phone number.



## New Cancer Presumption Law

by Don Pekich  
Cantrell, Green, Pekich,  
Cruz & McCort

No lawyer likes to talk about cases that were lost. A couple of years ago I represented a Hazmat firefighter. He had contracted an extremely rare cancer. It was a type of cancer which was so rare that only one or two cases a year had ever been reported. Little or nothing was known about its causes or what types of exposures were related to the disease.

My client, let's call him "Tom" for the purpose of this story, had been exposed to every imaginable type of carcinogen. No problem in showing an exposure. The problem was that the law at that time required that Tom show that he was exposed to a specific carcinogen which was reasonably connected to his particular type of cancer. Because of the lack of information pertaining to this extremely rare type of cancer, no such evidence could be produced.

### What the Big Print Giveth, the Small Print Taketh Away

The judge found against Tom, who was rightfully furious. So was I, but the judge was right in applying the law as it was then written. There was no basis to appeal. What the big print in the Labor Code section 3212.1 cancer presumption gave, the small print took away.

### Changes Were Overdue

On February 18, 1999, Assembly Members Papan and Lempert introduced Assembly Bill 539, which was intended to correct the unfair results inherent in the Safety Member Labor Code 3212.1 presumption.

### The Way It Was

The way the law had been written, cancer would be considered an industrial

injury if it developed during the time the member was in service, the member is able to show an actual exposure to a known carcinogen, and the carcinogen is reasonably linked to the disabling cancer. The presumption continued to apply for up to five years from the day last worked.

### The Way It Is

The new amendments eliminate the member's burden of proving exposure to a known carcinogen reasonably linked to the disabling cancer. All he need show is an exposure to a carcinogen. The agency must then prove that the primary site of the cancer has been established, and that that carcinogen did not cause the disabling cancer. This presumption also continues to apply for up to five years from the day last worked.

*Leukemia* is added as a specific type of cancer that is compensable pursuant to the cancer presumption law.

### Retroactive Effect

The amendments to this bill apply to claims which were filed or pending on or after January 1, 1997, including but not limited to claims that have been previously denied, or that are being appealed following denial.

### Reopening Old Cases

A Petition to Reopen is being filed on Tom's case. His date of injury was within five years so that the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board still has jurisdiction. His claim was on file on or after January 1, 1997. I can't guarantee that Tom will win this time, but at least he has a better shot at it.

*(Editor's Note: The League worked with its coalition of public safety organizations in Sacramento to help get this bill passed. We were strong supporters of this bill in committee, on the floor of both houses and at the Governor's office.)*

## College Degree Through Distance Learning

by Ted Hunt

Obtaining a college degree in the traditional way of attending classes for 16 weeks, is giving way to adult learning formats, including distance learning.

For years, distance learning courses have been offered via television, with some course work completed in a traditional classroom setting. But with the amazing advances in computer technology, a new form of distance learning is emerging—college courses via the Internet.

We want to present to you one of those programs—The University Alliance. It is a consortium of regionally accredited universities and colleges that provide accredited distance learning degree programs to adult learners.

It brings the classroom to you. No classroom attendance is required. Courses are presented through Internet and E-mail technology, videos, audio tapes, textbooks, and student guides.

The University Alliance offers masters and bachelors programs, adjustable to your schedule. You can do your studies at your convenience, any time, anywhere, 24/7. The flexibility eliminates problems of not getting your days off, change of watch, and missing class due to overtime.

You have to have a computer with Internet access. For additional information, log on to [www.universityalliance.com](http://www.universityalliance.com) or call 888-622-7344.



## ANNUAL SWAT DINNER

Monday,  
February 28, 2000

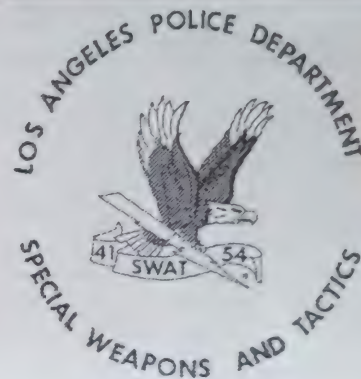
Location: Los Angeles  
Police Academy

Cocktails: 1800 Hrs.

Dinner: 1900 Hrs.

Tickets: \$30.00 each

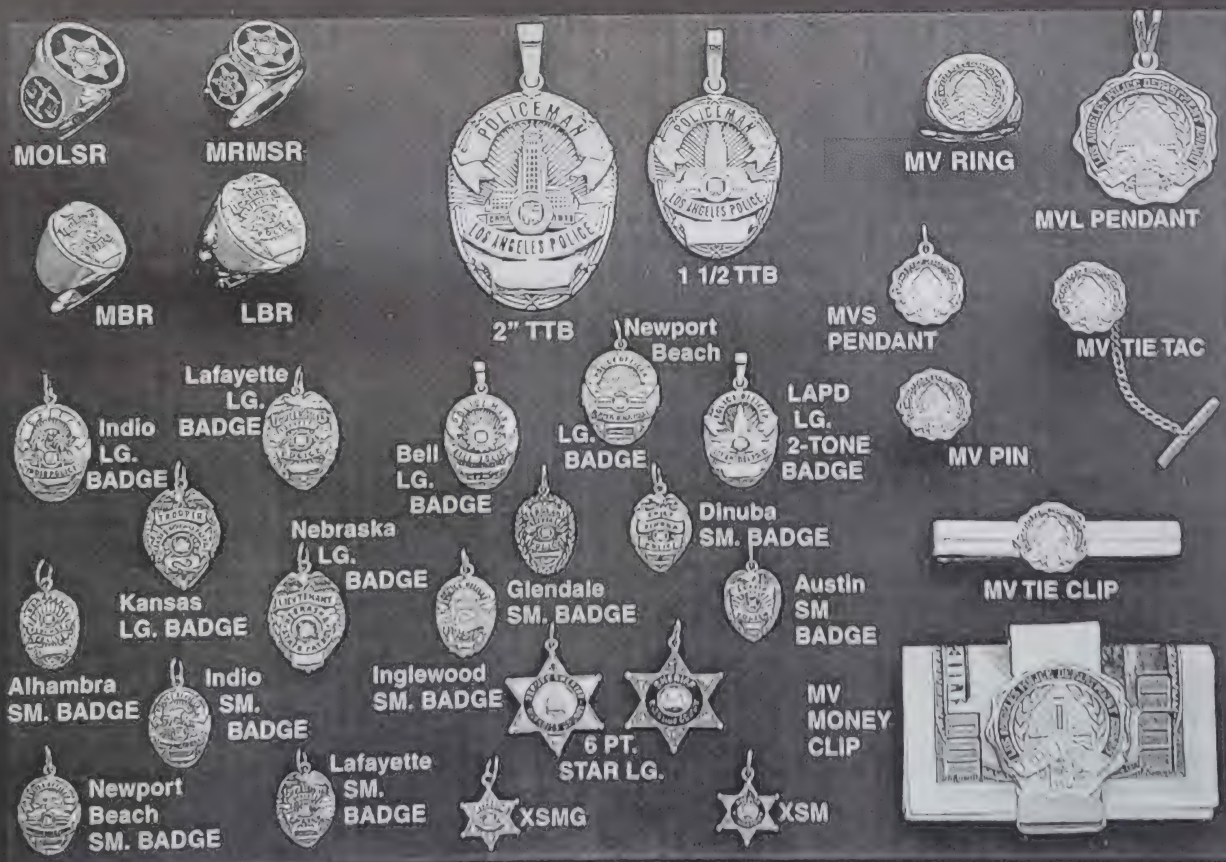
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# VETERAN'S CORNER



Veteran's Corner is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. We encourage you to submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

## American Legion News

Commander Martin Chalupa, 381

Meeting: 3rd Tuesday,  
6:30pm - Panorama City  
Post #817  
13553 Reedley Avenue  
Panorama City, CA 91402  
(818) 781-2261

Adjutant Frank Ortiz  
160 N. Glendora Avenue  
Covina, CA 91724  
Hm: (626) 331-4271



### September Meeting

At our last meeting on Sept. 21, 1999, Girl Scout Troop #731 joined us. Twenty-four girls and five counselors were in attendance. The girls led us in a prayer before the meal. We enjoyed their company and having them join us for dinner.

### Welcome Recruit Class #9-99

On Sept. 27, 1999, Marty Chalupa and J. J. Leonard welcomed the new police recruit class. There were eight with prior military service. They all

joined Police Post #381. Congratulations and welcome to the new members: Michael J. Boyle (USMC), Robert S. Carter (USMC), Kenneth M. Edwards (USMC), Brian Fattori (USMC), Eric W. Hermann (USAF), Andy J. Leuridan (USAF), Robert A. Persell (USMC), Johnnie R. Roose (USN).

### Veteran's Benefits—Military Burial

For those veterans who prefer cremation and burial at sea, the Coast Guard has such a service available, free of cost to veterans. Out-of-state veterans also qualify. There is a waiting period for the burial. The U.S. Coast Guard will explain the necessary information at the time of inquiry. A DD214 (discharge paper) is required. For further information, phone the U.S. Coast Guard, Long Beach office, 562-980-4444, or Oakland office, 510-437-5364. Written requests should be sent to "Commander's Office, MSO/GRV L.A. L.V., 165 N. Pico Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802, Attn: QMC Phee.

### Trivia

Why does A-1 mean the very best?

When the marine insurance firms of London (later to become known as Lloyds of London) started their businesses, they started a register of ships and cargo. The ships were graded by letters

and their cargoes by number. "A" meant the ship was perfect; "1" meant that the cargo was likewise perfect.

### Where did whipping boy originate?

When a king's son was bad, he should have been like any other boy, whipped. But because he was of royal blood he couldn't be, and so it became a custom to keep about the court some other "boy" who could be whipped instead of the prince.

### What is the origin of "on the wagon?"

The term comes from the army where the wagons carrying water accompanied the troops on the march. After a night of heavy drinking (an alcoholic beverage), a man was often in need of large drinks of water, as well as inclined to swear off liquor. For this reason the man, literally as well as figuratively, was "on the wagon."

### Next Meeting

The next monthly meeting will be on November 16, at 6:30 p.m., at the Panorama Post #817, located at 13553 Reedley Street, Panorama City. This is the annual "Old Timers Night." There will be no charge for this special dinner. All members are invited to enjoy good fellowship with fellow officers, active and retired. For information on the meeting, please call Adjutant Frank Ortiz (626) 331-4271.

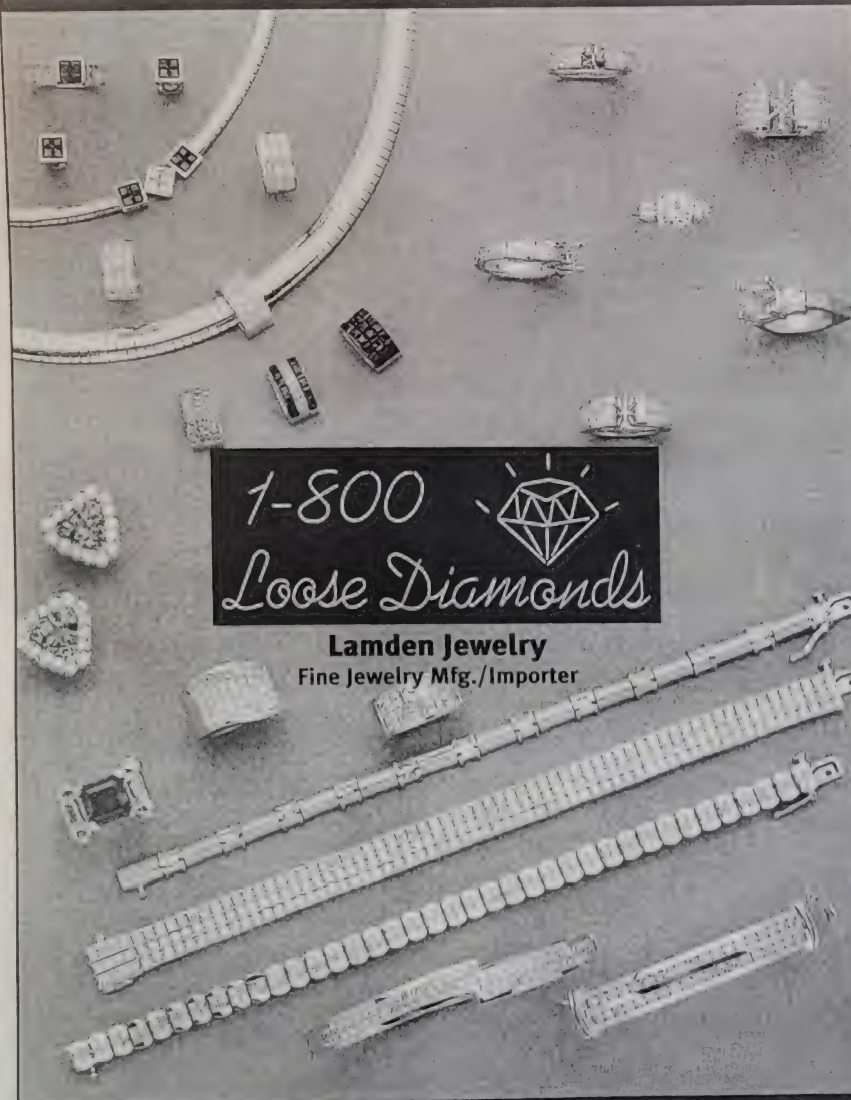
Our monthly meeting is usually scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month. The meeting on December 21, 1999 will be "dark" for obvious reasons.

### Notifications

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Marty Chalupa, 818-591-1024.

The Los Angeles Police Federal Credit Union's Main Office, Academy, Jesse Brewer, and Manchester Branches will be closed on **Thursday, November 11, 1999, in observance of Veterans' Day** and **Thursday and Friday, November 25 and 26, 1999, in observance of Thanksgiving.**

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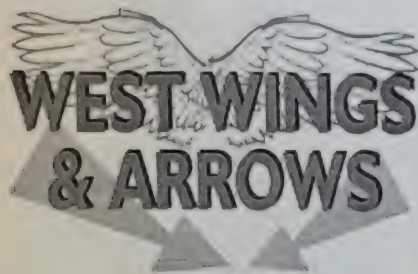
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# DIVISIONAL REPORTER

The Divisional Reporter is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Divisional Reporters may submit one report per Division for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.



by Jorge Torres  
West Traffic Division

Where has the time gone? It seems only a short time ago we were busily moving into our new facility at the begin-

your spouse, dog, or both. Hotel rooms will be available at the reduced rate of \$79 a night. Don't miss out on all the fun and cheer. See you there!

Kudos and honor are given to Reserve Officer Coordinators **Joanne Anthony** and **Tony Lee**. Since these two enthusiastic officers assumed their positions WTD's reserve officers and volunteers have doubled in size. And as of September 29th, reserve officers have written over 1,400 traffic citations!

We welcome Det. **Carrey Edwards** and Officer **Ray Kim**. The captain wants everyone to notice that the new guys WERE NOT assigned to morning watch.

We wish a fond farewell to **Greg Tay-**



Motor Officers Steve Redd, Carlos Mercado and Shands McCoy are in line to buy their Christmas party tickets.

ning of the year. It seems when you get my age (I'm 39!!) the years seem to run by at a sprinter's pace.

Guess what? It's time to celebrate the yuletide holidays once again. And according to police etiquette we are supposed to do so in a hearty and merry way! Buy your tickets and make your reserva-

tion. After 30 plus years Greg has decided to wind up his career with our department. Greg is now the ninth officer with 30 or more years to retire from West Traffic. We are going to miss you guys!

An inspiring quote from Officer **Phil Okamoto**, "Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty." That



The Champ is explaining "AOI" to Al Zardeneta and Joe Peyton.

tions to West Traffic's annual Christmas party. This year it's going to be held at the Universal Hotel on Saturday, November 27. Tickets will be at the reasonable rate of \$30 per person. There'll be lots of good food, and dancing. Bring

should make Phil and me about ninety. **Mike Farrell** is still looking for his yellow pad. If you have it, please return it! No questions asked.

Goodnight, Roy. See you at the Christmas party!

## VAN NUYS Happenings

by Bob Rose  
Van Nuys Division

### Van Nuys Comings and Goings

First and foremost, congratulations to newly-promoted Lieutenant **Jodi Wakefield**. Welcome back to Van Nuys. Jodi will be taking over Day Watch for Lt. **Anita McKeown**, who is headed for Public Affairs Section. I, for one, will miss Anita. A great person and fine Watch Commander who all of us owe at least one favor. Good luck in your new endeavor. Then, after languishing for six years in Van Nuys, Sgt. **Memo Rosales** finally got a Sgt.-2 spot, even if it is with Internal Affairs. Remember Memo, have the force with you and be kind when we sometimes step in it. Speaking of Internal Affairs, **Ron Stilz** is returning to us for IAG. Must have done a pretty good job. They sent a Sgt.-2 to take his place. I added up those moving out and those coming in and we are losing eight and getting six. Well, we lose again. **Chris Cosby** did get a P-3 position at West Valley, but then all of us called over to make sure he got the spot. Goodbye, Chris.

Got to report old dinosaur **Tom Bibbs** is off IOD. His mobile field force training went sideways when some young, energetic copper got carried away during a skirmish line practice and smacked Tom's leg with a baton. You just cannot treat us old guys that way. We break too easy. **Ron Allen** finally healed and is back with us.

We had our really bid divisional inspection today. Went down okay. The chief was here, Dep. Chief **Bostic** was present, our captains, and a slew of other dignitaries. We did luck out—the Harbor Narco guy went down last night so we all kinda expected the chief to show up with a Narco dog added to the inspection group, but he had some kind words instead. Along those lines, I did read something in the *L.A. Times* (which I am not a real fan of) in the

letters to the editor section. A citizen wrote in and stated that a bad cop is worse than a habitual criminal. The habitual criminal is supposed to be bad. Cops are supposed to be good. It's our job. Kind of said it all. Back to the inspection. They did pick one of the hottest October 1sts in L.A. history. Then they had us unload our weapons and stow the ammo in our lockers. Even the ammo in our ammo holders. Do not know if the chief was worried, or the captain was worried. Only three passed out from the heat. Not too bad considering. Sure glad that this one should, okay will be, my last divisional inspection.

I usually like to pick on some supervisor, but I need to find someone. Sgt. **Hundertmark** keeps sighting in his six-inch revolver every time I see him. Hmmm, maybe that's why they had us unload for the inspection. Anyway, it is always in good fun. If we lose our sense of humor, I think we will all lose it.

Now, about these people who always come up to me and state: How come my grandchild never got mentioned in the *Blue Line*. I had another one, and was promised a photo and all the details. Do not even remember who approached me, much less the vitals and a photo. Maybe for the next issue. For those in Van Nuys who like to read this stuff, I will be leaving in January, so I need a volunteer to take my place. It is not really that difficult. Just gather information and print it. Does not even need to be factual, just like the *L.A. Times*.

On a fairly serious note, **Rich Compton** was experiencing some chest pains and went to the hospital only to find he had a mild heart attack. I did see him in the station yesterday, so he must be getting better. Hey Rich, a lot less cigarettes and a lot more time in the workout room. We all like you way too much to lose you. Get with it guy, or else they will be fitting you with that pacemaker I was ragging on you about. Well, since no one will talk to me anymore . . . hmmm, maybe they are all mad at me . . . or maybe they just do not like me . . . wow, we really need a new reporter. One last zinger before I close. During the Van Nuys picnic our fine young copper **Dan Robinson** had to use the potty. He rushed in, started to do his thing, when a young female voice stated, "I don't think you are supposed to be in here." You know, woman and man signs are very similar and when you gotta go, you just gotta go. Okay all, see ya next.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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## DIVISIONAL REPORTER

### NoHo news

by John Marsden  
& Joane Bryant  
North Hollywood Division

#### Welcome

First of all we would like to extend our warmest welcome to our new captains—Captain III Crosley, who joins us from administrative Narcotics Division and Captain I Perez, who promoted from lieutenant of O.S.B. We know both will be missed at their prior divisions, but we are fortunate to have them now! May your stay here at North Hollywood be enjoyable.

#### Divisional Picnic

Our summer picnic, once again, was full of good food, good friends, and good times. Some of you guys have no business with such beautiful wives, but it made the picnic that much more appealing.

The picnic was held on Sunday, September 19, at the D.A.V. Hall in Woodland Hills. The tri-tip, chicken, and country music made the cold beer taste that much better. A special thanks to **John Marsden** and **Harry Van Vorst** from C.R.O., who diligently cooked over the hot barbecue grill in 90 degree weather. The food was delicious.

#### Mud Run

Our very own Bike and CRASH officers participated in the annual Mud Run. Our officers were fearlessly led by Sgt. **Iddhi** from CRASH who made us proud by representing North Holly-



Bike and CRASH officers (Lt to Rt) M. Higuera, J. Catalano, C. Camacho, Sgt. Iddhi and G. Pugliese.

wood and finishing the race. Way to go, guys!!

#### Officer of the Month

P.O. II **James Miller** has been selected as the North Hollywood Area Officer of the Month for September.

Officer Miller is a dedicated individual who has earned the reputation as a hard-working and conscientious officer. He is a four-year veteran who has previously been assigned to the Van Nuys Area. Since his arrival at North Hollywood, he has received numerous commendations for his outstanding investigative abilities, teamwork, knowledge of crime in the area, and dedication to duty which resulted in the arrest of numerous suspects. In summary, Officer Miller is an outstanding

individual who is well deserving of the Officer of the Month award.

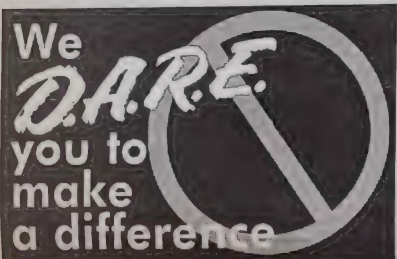
#### E.O.W.

For old North Hollywood Division veterans, we regret to announce the death of retired Traffic Officer II **John "Skip"**



Officer of the Month, James Miller.

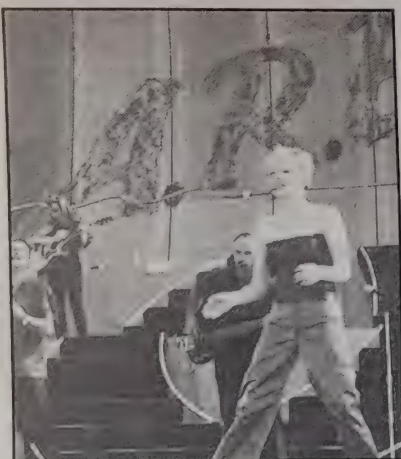
**Loeser.** Skip spent all of his 23 years of service at North Hollywood Division before retiring to Frazier Park with his wife, Irene, who you may remember was the supervising traffic officer at Van Nuys Division. Skip passed away on September 8, 1999, at age 84 following a brief and sudden illness. During his many years at North Hollywood, Skip was the unofficial morale officer. He will be missed. For further info, contact **Ron Frankle**, (818) 789-5123.



by Caesar Gonzalez  
D.A.R.E. Division

#### The LeAnn Rimes Concert

On October 5, 1999, D.A.R.E. America hosted the "educational event of the year"—a concert featuring LeAnn Rimes. LeAnn is one of today's most popular teen superstars. Her albums have



LeAnn Rimes live in concert.

sold millions and she is a definite role model for today's youth.

The event included various VIPs: Chief **Parks**, Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca, various Chiefs of Police from throughout the southland, Executive Director of D.A.R.E. America **Glenn Levant** (LAPD Retired Deputy Chief), and the crowd-pleasing Power Rangers. In attendance were over 20,000 students from LAUSD and other neighboring school districts.

Coincidentally, the day of the concert not only marked LeAnn's 17th birthday, but D.A.R.E. America's 17th anniversary as well. A befitting event celebrating our anti-drug cause.

LeAnn, a former D.A.R.E. graduate, wanted to thank police officers, teachers, and others who make a difference in the lives of our community's youth.

A special thanks goes out to Officer **Jessie Ramirez** for donating his time and efforts to photograph the event (see pictures).

#### It's Official—D.A.R.E. Division Has a New Home!

D.A.R.E. Division is now located at 4125 S. Crenshaw Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90008. The phone number and fax number are still the same: (213) 485-4856 and (213) 485-8867, respectively. This beautiful facility is located within the Crenshaw Mall complex, next to South Bureau Traffic. All department personnel are welcome to visit our new facility.

#### D.A.R.E. Goes to Germany

Recently, LAPD/DARE Division officers were tasked with presenting training in Wiesbaden, Germany. The training cadre led by Sgt. **Ed Palmer** included Officers **Greg White**, **Chuck Williams**, **Bernard Fitchpatrick**, **Felix Pena**, and **Joyce Juhl** of La Mesa PD. The cadre spent two weeks in the beautiful country of Germany training military personnel

Department is asserting itself as a leader in the law enforcement community on a worldwide basis. Good job, guys, and thanks for your hard work and dedication.

#### In and Out

This month's goodbye goes out to my good buddy, **Officer Alex Medel**, who will move to Training Division.



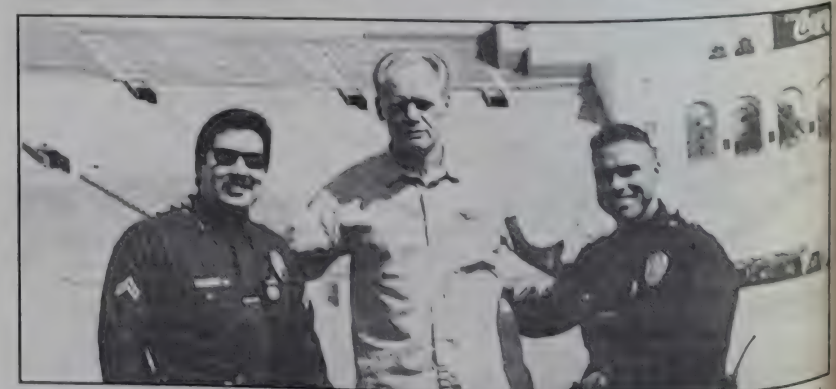
Boxing great Sugar Ray Leonard flashes his winning smile with Officers Carol Evans and Karen Wright. Sugar Ray is an active DARE supporter.

in the D.A.R.E. curriculum and ideology.

According to "Batman" Ed Palmer, LAPD officers were well received and highly regarded. It's nice to know that our Department's reputation extends as far as Germany. Additionally, Ed stated that the laws in Germany are much

as a new law instructor. Alex was personally responsible for automating the school clustering system and updating various office functions. His expertise and charming personality will be missed. Good luck and keep in touch.

New to D.A.R.E. Division are PSR



Former football great and TV star Fred Dryer takes time out to pose with Officers Ruben Holguin and Angel Vega.

stricter than the U.S. For example, if you are arrested for drunk driving, you lose your license forever. Talk about cutting court costs.

All military personnel were really impressed by the training. Once again, our

**Mary Ross** and Officers **Laurino**, **Loya**, **Shoop**, **Brining**, **Nuttall**, **Morris**, **Garcia**, and **Retamozo**. Welcome and get ready for one of the most rewarding assignments in your career.

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# 77th All★ American Division

by Maria C. Marquez  
77th Street Division

## Summer Time Fun

On July 31, 1999, 77th Street Area had its annual picnic at Knotts Berry Farm. Over 400 people were in attendance and in addition to having a day pass to the park we were treated to a chicken and hamburger "all you can eat" buffet. There was a water balloon toss, wheelbarrow races, egg toss, and other games for all ages. All the children received prizes and, in addition, over fifty door prizes for employees were won. The grand prize winner was PSR Jeanetta Adams who walked away with a brand new color television. The popular cartoon character "Snoopy" made an appearance to take pictures with all the children in attendance.

Special thanks to PSR **Vickie White** for putting in countless hours from fundraising for this picnic not to mention the dedicated hours given during the day at this event. Nice job, Vickie, now maybe you can get back to doing what your job title describes. (Yeah, right!)

## We are Proud of You...

On September 15, 1999, one of our very own received the prestigious "Medal of Valor" at the "40th Annual Medal of Valor Awards Luncheon."

Officer **Rex Yap**, #31203, responded to a call requesting additional officers to assist with a gang-related assault investi-



Officer Rex Yap with his prestigious awards.



77th Street with its own version of "Snoop Doggie Dog," and the Paysinger kids.

gation on January 17, 1997. Upon locating three suspects, Officer Yap and his partner, Officer **James Edwards**, stopped their vehicle and prepared to exit when one of the suspects turned and fired a round, striking Officer Yap in the face. Officer Yap stumbled out of the car and fired at the armed suspect until he collapsed. His partner ran to protect Yap from further assault and carried him out of the line of fire. A rescue team removed Officer Yap from the scene to a safe location where he received emergency

treatment. A perimeter was established and the suspect was arrested.

Officer Rex Yap has been a true inspiration to all of us at 77th Street. So in addition to the Department's honors, the 77th Street Detectives took it one step further and presented him with our own special plaque. It's indeed an honor well deserved. Congratulations, sir! Thank you for staying strong and allowing us the opportunity to "keep the faith."

## Citywide Team Work

77th Street takes a great deal of pride in outstanding teamwork performances when a noteworthy arrest is made. However, on Sept. 17, 1999, the backup received from Rampart and Communications once again proved that there are no boundaries when it pertains to our LAPD motto: "To protect and serve."

Officer **Ben Gutierrez**, #30430, and Officer **Erik Bruner**, #34670, responded to a call of an "ambulance battery, domestic violence" on 60th Street. The suspect was possibly the victim's boyfriend and the officers were familiar with this location from previous calls.

When the officers arrived they were met by the victim who advised them that when she returned home she discovered her residence unsecured and the lights on. The victim knew that she had secured her residence and chose to enter via the back door to use the phone in the back room to phone for police. Within minutes she heard noises from the front of the residence and came face-to-face with her ex-boyfriend. In a jealous rage, he began to beat her uncontrollably and then grabbed her by her hair and dragged her on the floor into the bedroom. While in the bedroom he raped her (by foreign object with great bodily injury). The suspect was GOA upon officers' arrival.

During the officers' investigation the suspect called the residence from an unknown location. Officer Gutierrez was able to determine the phone number where the suspect was calling from via the victim's caller I.D. display. Communications was quickly notified and PSR **Sharyn Gilbert**, #9440, immediately contacted the phone company and ascertained the location of the call. The location was in Rampart Division and they were quickly notified.

Officers **Michael Bautista**, #32051, **Doug Adamson**, #35044, **Robert Calderon**, #27569, **Chris Green**, #35398, Sergeants **Victor Davalos**, #25953, and **Cathlene Matthews**, #30442, responded to the suspect's location, and after a short foot pursuit he was taken into custody without incident. The victim was trans-

ported to the location and she positively identified the suspect.

This is a perfect example of what we together as an entire department can do to make the difference. Congratulations to all of you for your dedication to the community of Los Angeles and for your exemplary display of teamwork!

In life, as in football, you won't go far unless you know where the goal posts are. And so in life, as in a football game, the principle to follow is: "Hit the line hard." Continued success to all of you!

# West LA Journal

by Mary Dacey  
West L.A. Division

Okay, two months and counting... what will YOU be doing on New Year's Eve?! Here's what officers in Washington, D.C. have planned. "City officials admitted Friday that the District of Columbia will not be completely prepared for potential problems posed by the year 2000 computer glitch. Mayor Anthony Williams has also been making contingency plans. New Year's holiday leave has been canceled for 3,426 Metropolitan Police Department officers and 1,309 D.C. Fire and Rescue Department personnel. Another 18,370 city employees will be on call should problems arise."

This is from Washington (Reuters 9/28/99): "The U.S. and Russia have found potential year 2000 glitches in all but one of seven cold war era 'hotlines' and are rushing to correct them, a top Pentagon official told Congress Tuesday. To avoid misunderstandings during the date change, the U.S. and Russia agreed on September 13th to set up a joint 'Center for Y2K Strategic Stability' at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, CO. The U.S. and Russia each keep roughly 2,500 nuclear-tipped missiles pointed at one another on hair-trigger alert despite the collapse of the old Soviet

Union in December, '91, and the end of the Cold War."

Y2K: It's not the odds... it's the stakes (unknown).

Next month there will be more, lots more to read. By the way, Officer **Sherrie Lyn Andersen** (note: spelled en) recently joined us from Harbor for a brief sojourn at a day watch desk.

Karen's Korner strikes again with **Karen Shehorn** and Det. **Ron Behnke**



WLA Ofcr. Joe Gonzalez is ready for Y2K!

managing to rope in Robert "Jarra" Jaramillo for a live wrestling event. The question is, can he survive? Time will tell. It has come to my attention that a few more wrestling fans have come out of the woodwork including **Doug Beard**, who has been here for a couple of months from the Narcotics Falcon Unit. We'll be sorry to see him go as he is quite funny and has managed to enjoy himself immensely while he's been here.

It's hard to believe that the next time you'll be reading the *Blue Line* the holidays will be right around the corner. Meanwhile, have a happy Thanksgiving.

## More Divisional Reporter on next page



## Working New Year's Eve...?

### Watch off cancelled? Missing the new year's party?

Join us as we ring in the new Millennium at a very special LAPD celebration in Ireland. Celtic Travel is proud to offer reduced LAPD tour prices.

Dublin's St. Patrick's 2000 festival is hotting up to be one of the best ever with top Irish and international entertainment. An intoxicating mix of pageantry, color music and madness. During St. Patrick's week there will be a Monster Ceili in St. Stephen's Green. One of the world's great street theatre companies will perform a unique nighttime spectacular on the streets, the river and roof tops of the city. Party at An Garda Siochana's (Irish Police) exclusive social club.

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**Tour B:** March 14-25 - tour includes air, accommodation, breakfast, coach/guide expenses, entry fees, and entertainment for two evenings. This tour is different from Tour A in that you have two free days and you do not have dinner included in Dublin. Dinner is included after leaving Dublin. **\$1,230**

**Tour C:** March 14-21 - tour includes air, accommodation and breakfast with one nights entertainment at An Garda Siochana's (Irish Police) exclusive social club. Transfers to and from the airport and the social club **\$995**

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(Pronounced "crack". Gaelic for fun)

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## DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Gail Ryan  
Newton Division

On August 23, 1998, Officers **E. Angulo**, #34907, and **B. Jones**, #30323, responded to a "459 hot prowler" radio call at 4604 S. Compton Blvd. Upon arrival at the location, the officers observed that the security bars on the front window had been forced open. The officers identified themselves and entered the residence checking each room. They noted that one of the bedroom doors had been kicked in, causing a hole by the doorknob. Officer Jones peered through the hole and observed an adult Hispanic male, later ID'd as Defendant, sitting on a bed next to the victim, who was crying. Officer Jones again identified himself as a police officer and the defendant opened the door and was taken into custody without incident. The victim's brother was found under her bed where the suspect had forced him to crawl. The suspect had removed the victims' jewelry and wallets. And, he was in the process of forcing the female victim off her bed when she heard someone say "Police." The suspect, who was on active parole for burglary, had two counts of residential burglary and two counts of residential robbery filed against him by the DA's office. Good observation, officers. You may have saved a life with



Carl Edward Johnson, 1936 - 1999.

your quick response.

On August 27th, a male entered the lobby of Newton Station to use the

ATM machine. After several unsuccessful attempts to withdraw money, he left. Twenty minutes later he returned. And, while walking to the ATM, he reached into his pocket causing a glass pipe with wire mesh inside it to fall to the floor. The suspect quickly began to smash it with his foot, only to be confronted by Newton Desk Officer **J. Serrato**, #30606. Officer Serrato, while questioning him about his behavior, noticed an off-white object, resembling cocaine, in the suspect's hand. Further investigation revealed the suspect was using a stolen ATM card in an attempt to obtain cash, that he has an outstanding warrant, and three more "rocks on his person." Maybe next time the suspect will pick a store and not a police station to do his illegal transactions.

The best arrest of the month goes to **P3 J. McInnis**, #30409. She responded to a station call of a neighbor's loose chickens pooping in the front yard of the grandmother of a certain "high commander." After setting up a perimeter, she and fellow officers spent an hour chasing three little baby chicks up and down the street before the wee ones tired out, were caught and sent to the "big chicken soup pot in the sky."



Lulu Gutierrez #27781 married Aug. 7, 1999, to Gary Patterson.

Belated congratulations to **Frank and Maria Trevino** on the birth of their first child, a daughter, **Brittany Danielle**, born June 4, 1999. Congratulations also to Det. **LuLu Gutierrez**, #27781, on her marriage to Gary Patterson on August 7, 1999.

Newton Officers were sad to learn of the death of a retired Newton officer. Sgt. **Carl Johnson** passed away on August 21, 1999, leaving behind Marjorie, his wife of 39 years, daughter Gayle and son Michael. Carl was the PM Watch Commander for many years at the "old" station and was famous for his secret barbecue sauce recipe that makes Newton's barbecue so famous. He will be deeply missed by all.



by Cheri Roberts  
Pacific Division

### Golf Greats

On September 13, Pacific Area had its annual golf tournament, which was put on by the Boosters. The event was a wonderful success, reaching well over



New CRO Sergeant Kite putts for an eagle.

the targeted goal. There were over 20 teams, and a great time was had by all! We look forward to next year's event.

### Good Samaritan "Study"

On one September evening Officer **Kevin Study** was driving home on the Pomona Freeway when the vehicle in front of him suddenly lost control and overturned. Kevin immediately stopped his vehicle to come to the aid of the driver. The lone female driver was unconscious and motionless. He checked her vital signs and quickly began resuscitation maneuvers in an attempt to stabilize the woman. He also erected a flare pattern from flares of his own collection to divert traffic, and keep other vehicles from colliding into them. When CHP officers arrived on-scene the woman was still motionless but was later revived and survived her injuries. Officer Study was commended for his good samaritan efforts by the Highway Patrol along with his fellow officers here at Pacific!

### Double Murder Suspects Captured

In August there were two young men brutally murdered while standing in a carport. Detectives **Morgan and Barr** (and Pacific CRASH officers) turned to a local gang as the most likely suspects in the homicides. A search warrant was served on the residence of one of the suspects and detectives were also able to implicate an additional gang member (juvenile). The D.A.'s office filed numerous felony counts on one suspect, including two counts of murder with special circumstances. The juvenile was charged with two counts of accessory to murder. This was a perfect example of how the CRASH/Homicide Units can work together on a classic gang murder. Great job!

### New Arrival

We want to congratulate Officer **Tony Ramos** and his wife on the recent birth of

their baby. We wish you the best of luck and hope your nights are filled with lots of sleep! Smile!

### Affixing an Appendix

Sgt. **Dave Ferry** recently underwent surgery for a burst appendix. He is currently off sick but looking forward to coming back to work. We wish him all the best for a speedy recovery!

### Movin' In

We welcome the following people to Pacific Area: **D-3 Willis** is in from WVAL, **D-1 Motto** is over from DEV, Officer **Howard Mathews** (our friend) is in from WVAL, and Officer **Underdahl** (from DNCPG) and Officer **Martinez** (from SE) are headed to LAX.

### Movin' Out

We say goodbye to the following people who have left Pacific Area: Officer **Barr** who made Detective and went to RAMP, Det. **Reyes** who went



Captain Gary Williams and Lt. Joe Peyton wave to the camera as they cruise to their tee off.



Eddy Yoon, Gino Damiano, and Mike Porter pose for a quick shot at the recent golf tournament.

to VNYS, Officers **Alonzo and Reece** who both went to HARB, Officer **Belli** who went to SE, Officer **Saint-Julien** who went to TBD, Officer **Pickering** who went to TRD, and Officer **Ayala** who went to VNYS. Best of luck to everyone!

### Movin' Up

We congratulate LAX Bomb Detection K-9 Unit "**Ringo**" and Officer **Gary Newton**, who recently passed their training mission and were certified by the Federal Aviation Administration to perform searches. There was an 11-day evaluation in which several different teams worked in the aircraft, terminals, warehouses, vehicle, and luggage. Best wishes to the unit!

Hope you all had a wonderfully frightful Halloween, and here's wishing you all a very happy Thanksgiving!



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More Divisional Reporter on page 33



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#### Officer Andrew Azodi

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.



Officer Azodi

West Valley Patrol Officer Andrew Azodi was one of the first officers to respond. Officers Azodi and other officers determined that the suspect had barricaded himself inside the darkened warehouse, waiting to ambush any rescuing officers. Concerned with the condition of the wounded Glendale detective, SWAT officers were then requested to respond to the scene.

Realizing there would be a delay in the SWAT officers' arrival, the officers initiated a plan to rescue the Glendale detective. With several other officers providing cover, Officer Azodi and the rescue team entered the warehouse. The suspect then fired several rounds injuring two of the rescuing officers. Immediately, Officer Azodi redeployed to a safe location. The rescue and cover teams regrouped and Officer Azodi provided cover fire allowing several others to pull the wounded officers to safety.

The SWAT unit arrived, deployed and rescued the Glendale detective, who unfortunately had succumbed to his injuries. The SWAT unit then searched for the suspect and found his body with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Officer Andrew Azodi's courage, discipline and presence of mind embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Azodi is hereby acknowledged with the Medal of Valor.

#### Officer Jude Bella

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.



Officer Bella

West Valley Patrol Officer Jude Bella was one of the first officers to respond. Officers Bella and other officers determined that the suspect had barricaded himself inside the darkened warehouse, waiting to ambush any rescuing officers. Concerned with the condition of the wounded Glendale detective, SWAT officers were then requested to respond to the scene.

Realizing there would be a delay in the SWAT officers' arrival, Officer Bella initiated a plan to rescue the Glendale detective. With several other officers providing cover, Officer Bella and the rescue team entered the warehouse. The suspect then fired several rounds striking Officer Bella and another rescuing officer. Although Officer Bella's body armor prevented any fatal injuries, he sustained a total of five gunshot wounds from the suspect's deadly barrage. Immediately the rescue and cover teams regrouped and pulled Officer Bella and the other wounded rescuing officer to safety.

The SWAT unit arrived, deployed and rescued the Glendale detective, who unfortunately had succumbed to his injuries. The SWAT unit then searched for the suspect and found his body with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Officer Jude Bella's courage, discipline and presence of mind embody the

finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Bella is hereby acknowledged with the Medal of Valor.

#### Officer Ryan Clark

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.



Officer Clark

North Hollywood Patrol Officer Ryan Clark was one of the first officers to respond. Officers Clark and other officers determined that the suspect had barricaded himself inside the darkened warehouse, waiting to ambush any rescuing officers. Concerned with the condition of the wounded Glendale detective, SWAT officers were then requested to respond to the scene.

Realizing there would be a delay in the SWAT officers' arrival, the officers initiated a plan to rescue the Glendale detective. With several other officers providing cover, Officer Clark and the rescue team entered the warehouse. The suspect then fired several rounds injuring two of the rescuing officers. Immediately, Officer Clark redeployed to a safe location. The rescue and cover teams regrouped and Officer Clark provided cover fire allowing several others to pull the wounded officers to safety.

The SWAT unit arrived, deployed and rescued the Glendale detective, who unfortunately had succumbed to his injuries. The SWAT unit then searched for the suspect and found his body with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Officer Ryan Clark's courage, discipline and presence of mind embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Clark is hereby acknowledged with the Medal of Valor.

#### Officer John Constable

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.



Officer Constable

Van Nuys Patrol Officer John Constable was one of the first officers to respond. It was determined that the suspect had barricaded himself inside the darkened warehouse waiting to ambush any rescuing officers. Concerned with the condition of the wounded Glendale detective, SWAT officers were then requested to respond to the scene.

Realizing there would be a delay in the SWAT officers' arrival, the officers initiated a plan to rescue the Glendale detective. With Officer Constable and several other officers providing cover, a rescue team of officers entered the warehouse. The suspect then fired several rounds injuring two of the rescuing officers. The rescue and cover teams regrouped and Officer Constable provided cover fire allowing several others to pull the wounded officers to safety.

The SWAT unit arrived, deployed and rescued the detective, who unfortunately had succumbed to his injuries. The SWAT unit then searched for the suspect and found his body with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Officer John Constable's courage, discipline and presence of mind embody the



finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Constable is hereby acknowledged with the Medal of Valor.

#### Officer Kevin Foster

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one, at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.



Officer Foster

West Valley Patrol Officer Kevin Foster was one of the first officers to respond. Officer Foster and other officers determined that the suspect had barricaded himself inside the darkened warehouse, waiting to ambush any rescuing officers. Concerned with the condition of the wounded Glendale detective, SWAT officers were then requested to respond to the scene.

Realizing there would be a delay in the SWAT officers' arrival, the officers initiated a plan to rescue the Glendale detective. With several other officers providing cover, Officer Foster and the rescue team entered the warehouse. The suspect then fired several rounds striking Officer Foster and another rescuing officer. Although Officer Foster's body armor prevented any fatal injuries, he sustained several gunshot wounds from the suspect's deadly barrage. Immediately, the rescue and cover teams regrouped and pulled Officer Foster and the other wounded rescuing officer to safety.

The SWAT unit arrived, deployed and rescued the Glendale detective, who unfortunately had succumbed to his injuries. The SWAT unit then searched for the suspect and found his body with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Officer Kevin Foster's courage, bravery and presence of mind embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Foster is hereby acknowledged with the Medal of Valor.

#### Officer Craig Hewitt

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.



Officer Hewitt

Devonshire Patrol Officer Craig Hewitt was one of the first officers to respond. Officers Hewitt and other officers determined that the suspect had barricaded himself inside the darkened warehouse, waiting to ambush any rescuing officers. Concerned with the condition of the wounded Glendale detective,

# MEDAL OF VALOR

Photos by S.I.

SWAT officers were then requested to respond to the scene.

Realizing there would be a delay in the SWAT officers' arrival, the officers initiated a plan to rescue the Glendale detective. Officer Hewitt and another officer fired three shotgun rounds in the direction of the suspect while the rescue team entered the warehouse. The suspect then fired several rounds injuring two of the rescuing officers. Immediately, Officer Hewitt deployed into a position providing cover for the wounded officers, allowing several other officers to pull the wounded officers to safety.

The SWAT unit arrived, deployed and rescued the Glendale detective, who unfortunately had succumbed to his injuries. The SWAT unit then searched for the suspect and found his body with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Officer Craig Hewitt's courage, discipline and presence of mind embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Hewitt is hereby acknowledged with the Medal of Valor.

#### Officer Chris Dunn

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.



Officer Dunn

West Valley Patrol Officer Chris Dunn was one of the first officers to respond. Officers Dunn and other patrol officers met with the partner of the wounded

Glendale detective who briefed them on the location of his injured partner. The officers immediately initiated a rescue plan and began implementation. The officers rolled a flashlight into the darkened warehouse causing the suspect to fire one round, striking the flashlight. Officer Dunn returned cover fire as the rescue team retreated to a safer location. The rescue attempt was discontinued and SWAT officers were requested to respond to the scene.

The SWAT unit deployed and rescued the Glendale detective, who unfortunately had succumbed to his injuries. The SWAT unit then searched for the suspect and found his body with a fatal, self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Officer Chris Dunn's courage, discipline and presence of mind embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department. Officer Dunn is hereby acknowledged with the Medal of Valor.

#### Officer Joseph Kalyn

On the evening of May 27, 1997, a suspect in a domestic violence investigation had opened fire on two Glendale Police detectives, seriously wounding one at a studio-prop warehouse in the San Fernando Valley.

West Valley Patrol Officer Joseph Kalyn was one of the first officers to









# MEDAL OF VALOR



Continued from previous page

## Officer James Edwards

On January 17, 1997, Northeast Area Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums (CRASH) Officer James Edwards and his two partners responded to a radio call requesting additional units for a gang-related assault investigation involving an armed suspect.



Officer Edwards

The officers observed gang members who fit the description of the wanted suspects and stopped to investigate further. As Officer Edwards exited his vehicle, he observed one of the suspects pointing a handgun at the officers. He shouted "Gun!" and the suspect fired a round at the officers. The round penetrated the windshield of the police vehicle striking one of Officer Edwards' partners in the face. In defense of his life and the lives of his partners, Officer Edwards fired at the suspect from behind the door of his vehicle.

Although seriously wounded, Officer Edwards' partner exited the vehicle and began a foot pursuit and engaged the armed suspect in gunfire. Officer Edwards, witnessing his wounded partner collapse, ran to protect him from further assault, carrying him out of the line of fire. Officer Edwards then observed a second suspect fleeing and ran in pursuit, engaging in an exchange of gunfire.

Realizing his wounded partner's urgent need for medical attention, Officer Edwards discontinued the pursuit and requested a rescue ambulance and additional units.

For outstanding courage and bravery in the face of extreme danger while saving the life of his partner, Officer James Edwards is awarded the Medal of Valor.

## Officer Rex Yap

On January 17, 1997, Northeast Area Community Resources Against Street Hoodlums (CRASH) Officer Rex Yap and his two partners responded to a radio call requesting additional units for a gang-related assault investigation involving an armed suspect.



Officer Yap

The officers observed gang members who fit the description of the wanted suspects and stopped to investigate further. As his partner exited his vehicle, he observed one of the suspects pointing a handgun at the officers. His partner shouted "Gun!" and the suspect fired a round at the officers. The round penetrated the windshield of the police vehicle and struck Officer Yap in the face.

Although seriously wounded, Officer Yap exited the vehicle and began a foot pursuit and engaged the armed suspect in gunfire. In defense of his life and the lives of his partners, Officer Yap continually assessed the suspect's actions while simultaneously reloading his weapon.

Due to his injuries, Officer Yap collapsed where he sought cover.

Despite suffering a nearly fatal gunshot wound to the face, Officer Yap fired toward his assailants and provided cover fire and protection for his partners. For outstanding tenacity and bravery in the highest tradition of the Los Angeles Police Department, Officer Rex Yap is awarded the Medal of Valor. ❖

## Officer Jack Parker

In the early morning of April 6, 1995, off-duty Metropolitan Division Officer Jack Parker and an off-duty Reserve Officer were driving their personal vehicles in the Van Nuys Area. At an intersection, both officers stopped and observed a group of men fighting near a bar. Suddenly, one of the men produced a semi-automatic handgun and began firing at the group, wounding one victim.



Officer Parker

Attempting to stop the assault, both officers exited their vehicles and identified themselves as police officers. Armed with an off-duty revolver, Officer Parker attempted to locate the suspect. Suddenly, the suspect fired upon Officer Parker. Despite the intense gunfire, Officer Parker kept the suspect in sight as he fled in a vehicle driven by an accomplice.

Officer Parker instructed the Reserve Officer to follow the fleeing vehicle. After firing upon both officers' vehicles and stopping twice, the suspects exited the vehicle and fled on foot. Officer Parker pursued on foot, despite falling and sustaining injuries to his knees and hand, chasing the suspects over two blocks. Maintaining presence of mind, Parker, with the assistance of the Reserve Officer, took both suspects into custody. Though off-duty, Officer Parker did not hesitate to act and bring two dangerous suspects into custody.

Officer Jack Parker's courage, persistence and presence of mind embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department and is awarded the Medal of Valor.

## Officer Debra Fairchild

In the early morning of April 6, 1995, off-duty Traffic Coordination Section Reserve Officer Debra Fairchild and an off-duty Metropolitan Division Officer were driving their personal vehicles in the Van Nuys Area. At an intersection, both officers stopped and observed a group of men fighting near a bar. Suddenly, one of the men produced a semi-automatic handgun and began firing at the group, wounding one victim.



Officer Fairchild

Attempting to stop the assault, both officers exited their vehicles and identified themselves as police officers. Though unarmed, Officer Fairchild placed herself in harm's way and immediately joined the armed Metropolitan officer in the pursuit. Suddenly, the suspect fired at the Metropolitan officer and then fled in a vehicle driven by an accomplice.

In each of their vehicles the officers worked as a team, following the suspects. One suspect fired on Officer Fairchild, narrowly missing her. Officer Fairchild turned on her high-beam headlights allowing her to read the license plate numbers and blinding the suspect as to her exact location. After several rounds of gunfire, the suspect and his accomplice abandoned the vehicle and fled on foot.

As the Metropolitan officer began a foot pursuit of the suspects, Officer Fairchild exited her vehicle and joined the pursuit, chasing the suspects for two blocks. The suspects were apprehended by Officer Fairchild and the Metropolitan officer. Though unarmed, and off-duty, Officer Fairchild did not hesitate to act and bring two dangerous suspects into custody. Reserve Officer Debra Fairchild's courage, persistence and bravery embody the finest traditions of the Los Angeles Police Department and is awarded the Medal of Valor. ❖

## Medal of Valor Introductory Remarks

By Ted Hunt, President, Los Angeles Police Protective League

On behalf of the rank-and-file members of the Department, which include the brave men and women being honored here today, we want to thank the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and all the businesses that contributed to making this event a success. As police officers, we make personal and team sacrifices for the people of Los Angeles, and knowing that we are appreciated is very important to us. The Los Angeles Police Protective League has worked over the past few years to create a partnership

with the City, local businesses, other unions, and other agencies that enhances and promotes commerce in the greater Los Angeles Area.

As a police union, part of our job is to help member officers deliver the best police services possible. As an example of partnership, we recently joined with Chief Bernard Parks to present the Second Annual College Day, where law enforcement officials, both sworn and civilian who want to advance their education were able to look at over 40 area

colleges and universities that offer adult learning programs. Encouraging police officers to go back to college is important because the improved education and training leads to more effective and more efficient law enforcement.

Again, we thank the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and thank Chief Parks for letting us make this tape. It's another example of working together to re-establish LAPD as the unquestioned leader in law enforcement. Thank you. ❖





# DIVISIONAL REPORTER

## 18 SOUTHEAST

by Al Labrada  
Southeast Division

Greetings from Southeast Division. We certainly hope everyone had an outstanding summer. I would like to congratulate our newest P-IIIs: Kevin Dunigan (SOE), Gerardo Viguera (SOE), Jamie Bennett (SOE), and Daniel Anderson (CENT).

In the month of September Southeast officers planned several leisure events

The other planned event was the 5th annual Southeast Business Boosters Golf Tournament. This year's event was planned at the Chester Washington Golf Course. The event took place on Monday, October 4, 1999. This year's event was again a great success.

I would like to reserve a special paragraph to apologize to Officer Tim Colomey and family. Somehow the *Blue Line* for October said that Tim's new baby was 30-1/2 inches long. I suppose if that were the case the baby would be in a record book. I am not going to admit guilt or blame others, but the fact is a mistake was made and is now being corrected so let's leave it at that. Baby Colomey is 20-1/2 inches long.

### From the Bird

We would like to welcome into our deployment the new Long, Keelan Elena Long, who was born on October 4, 1999.



Officers Burkette, Vazquez, Olmos, Vizcarra and Rodriguez.

for the Division. The first was the annual LASO Mud Run. Southeast provided several outstanding and motivated runners and as always did amazingly well.

She weighed in at 5 pounds, 7 ounces. Congratulations to Det. Bob Long and his wife. I would also like to congratulate the other new father, Officer G. Pantoja. Nicolas Alejandro Pantoja was born July

16, 1999. He weighed in at 7 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long. Congratulations to the new parents.

### On the Move

I would like to bid a divisional farewell to Det. L. Tagle (ND), Det. R. Vega (FCD), Det. K. Petrash (HARB), Det.



Southeast officers making the mud look easy!

J. Pardy (OCVD), P-II P. Stice (DSD), P-II S. Blackman (CTD), P-II E. Schoop (DARE), P-II R. Martinez (PAC-LAX), P-II J. Martinez (TBD), and N. Clark (R&I).

I would like to welcome back to Southeast the South Bureau Homicide crew, D-III S. Labarbera, D-I R. Jankowski, D-I D. Nickerson, D-I W. Smith, and P-III M. Raichel.

I would also like to welcome the new Vice Sgt.-II M. Piersol, P-II J. Provost (DEV), P-I S. Marin (TRNG), and P-I P. Razo (TRNG).

On September 18, 1999, information was passed on to Southeast roll call officers about a rape suspect who was stalk-

ing victims in Southeast Area. Officers Gonzales, Pantoja, and Hicks were assigned Southeast CRASH unit 18CR37. These officers, having good knowledge of their area, checked the area for this sexual predator. Officers were in the area of Avalon Blvd. and 92nd St. when they observed a possible suspect traveling

northbound. Officers tactically deployed on the vehicle and detained the occupant. Officers conducted a preliminary interview. Further investigation netted a blue steel 380 pistol, black leather gloves and a black knit cap.

The officers then completed a photo six pack in which the victim positively identified the suspect. The rapist was booked for various felony charges. Good job!

Till the next one, if any of you current or retired Southeasters have some divisional war stories, send them in, attention Al Labrada, Southeast Area, 145 West 108th St., L.A., CA 90065. I will get them printed for upcoming issues.

BE SAFE!

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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#### • JAY SOARES, Police Officer

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#### • CHRIS PIMENTEL, Police Officer

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## DIVISIONAL REPORTER

### Out of the Great



by Jeff Siggers  
Southwest Area

#### Southwest Area Picnic

On September 18th, Southwest Area held its annual picnic in Cerritos Park. The Southwest Community Relations Office did a great job of organizing it and it really showed. This was a fun event and everyone had a great time. Football, volleyball and a moon bounce machine started off the day as everyone worked up an appetite for a great picnic buffet lunch of BBQ ribs, chicken and all the extras. Then, as a DJ played music, we had several good old-fashioned picnic events such as water balloon tosses, wheelbarrow races, sack races, and a very precarious but exciting egg toss contest. Of course, prizes were given away for all these events. We think the prize for the egg toss next

year should be a matched set of hand towels. Also, a raffle was held and the grand prize was an Aiwa 3-CD mini home stereo system which went to lucky **Hector Marquez** of Mid-Day Watch.

Several game booths were run by the Southwest Explorer Post, including a dunking machine which turned out to be a real crowd-pleaser. It was manned by several of the brave souls in key staff positions who dared to try their luck against Southwest's finest baseball arms. The first victim was **Dave McGill**. During working hours one of Dave's duties is to oversee the progress of the Complaint Unit. I'm sure no one took that personally, but it was said that Dave hit the water more often than ducks in hunting season. Of course, this meant that he also had the unfortunate duty of warming up the water for his boss, **Mike Chambers**. It didn't take long for the word to spread that "Captain C" was in the dunking booth and almost everyone at the picnic lined up to take a shot at him. Now, we all love Captain C, and had a great time at his expense, but it was curious that his greatest problem that day came from an unexpected source—his son. It seems that the younger Chambers is a baseball pitcher of great ability, but it was really



Dave McGill shivers from fear and anticipation... or perhaps just the cold, as he waits to hit the water in the Southwest picnic dunking booth.

fortunate that no professional baseball scouts were there that day. You see, a pitcher is judged by how few hits the opposition can get off of him, but Captain C "hit" the water every time Junior pitched! It was a beautiful thing...

We want to thank all the people who worked so hard to make this picnic a wonderful, happy day for everyone. A special thanks is reserved for **Mike Cryer** who was the central figure and the driving force in making this event a success. Thanks, Mike!

#### Integrity Still Counts

A small but important incident unfolded at the Area picnic this year. During the festivities, Southwest Explorer **Luis Canas** found a roll of \$20 bills totaling \$100 lying on the ground. Rather than pocketing the money and saying nothing, like many dishonest people would, Luis immediately began a quest to find the rightful owner of the cash. He reported the find to his YSO and other officers and a wide canvassing of the attendees took place to try to return the money. The owner of the money

was not found, but it was noted in the commendation that was written for Luis that "his honesty and integrity, which is the hallmark of the Los Angeles Police Department Explorer program, uncompromisingly prevailed and easily allowed him to do an admirable deed." Congratulations, Luis, and keep up the good work!

#### New Births

We are happy to report the birth of **Olivia Teresa Mijares** to **Ignacio Mijares** and his wife, Susan. She was born on February 5th at 1506 hours and is healthy and happy and doing fine. By now she is sleeping through the night and taking solid foods—sorry about the delay. Also, **Billy Dougherty** and his wife, Lana, had their third daughter, **Amanda Lee Chrisman Dougherty**, on May 24th at 1132 hours. Apparently the baby is doing fine and Billy wants us to know that she is the granddaughter of Hall of Fame Drag Racer Jack Crissman. Billy, I can't wait to see what happens when she gets her Cal Op. By sheer coincidence, both babies were born at 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and 19.5 inches.

## What About Wilshire?

by Stephen Nichols  
Wilshire Division

Well... we're back! After a brief absence from *The Thin Blue Line*, Wilshire Division is again ready to show why "No. 7" is truly the best in the Department. I'd like to thank my predecessor, Officer **Jason Ficken**, for his capable reporting while at Wilshire Division. I'll certainly attempt to continue the "job well done."

The last few months have been fairly uneventful here. The requisite transfers in and out as well as the usual goings-on have made for a "typical" summer in Wilshire. However, there were a couple of noteworthy events worth passing along. First of all, after what seemed like forever, we finally got our "new" roll call room. For those of us who sat on the hard, backless benches, in a room resembling something from the original "I-ADAM12" television series, the carpeted floors, comfortable chairs and adequate lighting are a huge

and welcome improvement. To all who labored and gave to make it happen, a sincere "THANK YOU."

Wilshire employees also enjoyed the annual Family Picnic held at Point Dume State Park. The fact it went off without a hitch was no small miracle, considering how my "Hype Car" partner, Officer "B" **Durazo**, along with the Wilshire Station Fund Committee, had only one week to put it together! All told, it was a great success.

Shifting gears, Lt. **Andrew Monsue** raised the challenge to us in mid-day roll call to create a logo or design that defines the spirit of Wilshire Division. In-house artist, Officer **David Redd**, rose to the occasion and is in the process of making the idea a reality. Hopefully, we will be able to present the finished result in next month's column. Speaking of next month, I'll have more names and stories, along with a mini profile on a long-time Wilshire officer.

Before I call it a wrap, I just want to acknowledge our Brother and Sister officers in neighboring Rampart Division. All of you, please hold your heads high, and know that you are the best! As the expression goes, "This too shall pass." We at Wilshire Division support you and are proud to serve alongside you.

Until next month, look out for and take care of each other.

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## RECRUITMENT RHETORIC

by Douglas P. Larkin  
Employee Opportunity  
and Development Division

Imagine yourselves sitting in roll call, your Watch Commander steps up to the front of the room and says, "Nobody is going out into the field until further notice. We are all going to work Detectives and shuffle paperwork." Think of the impact that would have on your day-to-day activities and your mindset of the job that you'll love to do. This is basically what has happened over the past several months in the Recruitment Section. Not to bore you with details, but be assured that we are back to our original plan, "Go anywhere to recruit the best!"

#### Up the Ladder

It's my pleasure to announce the promotions of Officers **Joe Ferreira**, #31051, and **Ken Roa**, #31690. After one relatively short oral interview and one very long interview, respectively, it was deemed that these officers were the best to wear the beloved "two stripes."

I want to welcome from class 5-95 and West Valley Division Officer **Kip Jackson**, #31733. I have to say that Kip has hit the 8th floor without skipping a beat. Keep up the good work.

#### Public Safety Expo '99

This year's combined effort event between the LAFD and LAPD is scheduled

for November 6th, between 0900-1500 hours. Everyone is welcome to go to the Frank Hotchkin Fire Academy and enjoy the festivities. There will be plenty of food and displays for all to enjoy. Bring a friend.

#### Los Angeles County Fair

This year's event attracted several hundred thousand fair-goers and practically half of those people came by our display to see what we had to offer and sit on our police motorcycle. Okay, so we only had 291 potential candidates sign our tracking sheets, but hopefully they will all be in the Academy by February, 2000. Good job to Officer **Connie Guerrero**, #31295, who coordinated the event as well as all recruitment officers who attended the three-week event. Let I forget, Officer **Rosa Torres**, #31867, acquired the beautiful plants that surrounded our display for the duration of the event. It sure seemed like there was a lot more oxygen in the air than usual.

#### Marine Corps Training

The Marine Corps Recruiters School at MCRD, San Diego, is a seven-week course designed to strengthen communication skills and make a better recruiter. Officers **Peace**, #32392, **Stine**, #31024, **Alonzo**, #31031, and myself were subjected to two of those days. Although I found some of the material to be a refresher, I have to say that overall the course turned out to be extremely challenging. Thank you to the training cadre and the Marines that we shared a piece of ourselves with. Please keep the calls coming in at (323) 957-4529, 30, 31, and 32.

Be safe and remember that there are not too many days left to shop for Christmas.

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# Devonshire Dateline

by Elaine "Pepper" Dewberry  
Devonshire Division

## The Spirit of Giving

Eight off-duty LAPD officers from Devonshire Community Police Station recently brought smiles to approximately 50 sick kids at Children's Hospital as they handed out teddy bears and offered encouragement. A seven-year-old boy fresh from two weeks in intensive care, giggled with excitement as Officer **Christina Frus** gave him a teddy bear.

Sgt. **Danny Mastro**, who organized the visit, said, "When you do something like this, you just feel so great. It's doing something for someone else, thinking about what they need."

Capt. **Joseph Curreri**, C/O, Devonshire Area, Officer **Donald Graham**, Devonshire VST, several other Devonshire officers, and Ronald McDonald visited patients ranging in age from 1 to 19, all of whom were suffering from diseases including leukemia and cancer. Sgt. Mastro said that the event was a "real humbling experience."

## Angels of Life

With her infant son gasping for air and turning blue, Debra Hopkins said that she looked desperately for help and found two "angels," in Officers **Dario Del Core** and **Francois Reese**, who made a quick decision that saved her child's life.

The officers rushed her eight-month-old son to Mission Community Hospital rather than wait for paramedics, a decision that doctors and nurses said saved the boy's life.

Officers Del Core and Reese said they acted on instinct because they knew the boy couldn't wait for an ambulance. Reese said that he was thinking of his own child and thought, "He's going to get to the hospital alive. It's as simple as that."

Both officers are to be commended for their presence of mind, quick action and attention to duty, which helped to save the life of a child.

## Devonshire Area Jeopardy Success Story

Officer **John Hardin**, Devonshire Area Jeopardy, recently traveled to Augusta, Georgia, with Jeopardy boxing student **Cindy Zamudo** to attend the 1999 Women's National Golden Gloves Tournament. Ms. Zamudo competed and won the 201 pounds-plus 1999 National Golden Gloves Women's Championship. Ms. Za-



photo by Elaine "Pepper" Dewberry  
Ms. Cindy Zamudo and Jeopardy Officer John Hardin, Devonshire area.

mudo is a Jeopardy success story. Since joining the Jeopardy program three years ago, her grades have improved dramatically. She is now a senior at Kennedy High School and has plans to attend a local university.

## CLEAR Officers Make Impact in Target Areas

Officers **Ed Arca** and **Stephen Gomez**, assigned to the Devonshire CLEAR Unit, recently made an arrest of an active "Shoreline Crip" gang member for DUI. During the investigation the officers recovered a loaded .38 revolver from under the front seat of the vehicle. The gun was taken in a burglary in La Canada in 1998. The suspect was arrested for 12020 P.C., with additional filings for burglary, DUI and RSP. The CLEAR District Attorneys prosecuted the case and the suspect received six years in state prison.

Officers **Don Magers** and his partner **Juan Emerich**, aka "The Don Juan Team," achieved 110 arrests, 15 of which were felonies during DP 8.

During one recent reporting period, CLEAR officers made 78 felony and misdemeanor arrests, 23 juvenile arrests, conducted 163 Field Interviews, had 201 Field Contacts, recovered two deadly weapons and three stolen vehicles. Way to go CLEAR!

## Look Who's Down and Dirty and Celebrating Thirty!

Det. II Sgt. **F. Bruce Hescong** recently celebrated his 30-year anniversary as one of L.A.'s finest. The entire Burglary Table, under the helm of supervisor Det. III **Tom "El Jefe"**



photo by Elaine "Pepper" Dewberry  
Det. II/Sgt. Bruce Hescong celebrating 30 years of service, Devonshire area.

**Broad**, helped Bruce to celebrate with a luncheon at Las Hadas restaurant. The Hescong family had a beautiful "goody" basket delivered to Bruce at the station.

Thank you, Bruce, for faithfully serving the citizens of Los Angeles for thirty years.

## "Ten Bad Grapes Does Not Ruin an Entire Vineyard!"

Those were the sentiments recently inscribed on a beautiful cake that was delivered to the Devonshire family courtesy of Jeff and Linda Eisikovitz.

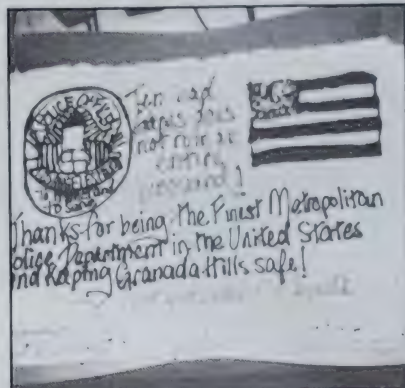


photo by Elaine "Pepper" Dewberry  
Cake in support of LAPD Devonshire area.

The cake, which also included an LAPD badge and an American flag, was further inscribed, "Thanks for being the finest Metropolitan Police Department in the United States and keeping Granada Hills safe!"

## Devonshire Fellowship

Devonshire Fellowship is a non-denominational group of officers who meet at the station twice a month. The focus of the gathering is to share their concerns and strengthen their faith. If

you have any questions or would like to know the exact meeting dates, contact Sgt. **Danny Mastro** or Officer **Kenneth Crawford**.

## Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

It's time to celebrate Thanksgiving once again. This year is quickly coming to an end. We've shared joys, sorrows and triumphs, both collectively as a family and as individuals. Take time to share with your loved ones the joy that they bring into your life and say thanks.

## Movin' Up

Congratulations to Officers **Frank Arujo** and **Thomas Townsend** on your recent promotions to P-3.

## Adios, Au Revoir, Aufwiedersehn, Goodbye!

Det. **John Motto** leaves us for Pacific, Officer **Manuel Melgoza** is heading downtown to Central, Officer **Christine Minohara-Biligan** heads out to CTD, Officer **James Provost** is heading down to Southeast. Best wishes in your new assignments and stay safe.

## Welcome

Devonshire welcomes Det. **Rollie Lantiser** and Officer **John Goslin** from Valley Bureau, Officer **Jose Valle** in from Central, Officer **Saul Paredes** from Training Division, and MA1 **Lucia Lemieux**. Welcome to you all and enjoy your stay.

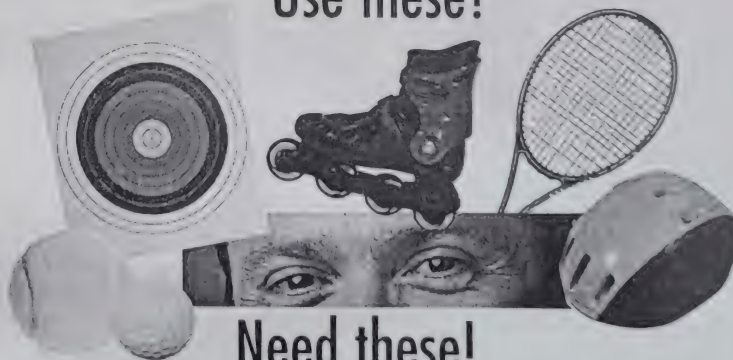
## Thought for the Month!

You can make sacrifices for your career. You can make sacrifices for your family. Or you can choose not to make sacrifices.

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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## DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Ruben Rodriguez  
Hollenbeck Division

Happy November and may you have a wonderful and joyful Thanksgiving in the company of all those who are dear to your heart.

### Baby Talk

I begin this month's column with the usual birth announcements, which Hollenbeck officers just can't seem to stop providing. This month we have Officer **Rafael Ferrer's** lovely girlfriend, Sandra, giving birth to a beautiful baby girl. Little Alexandria entered this world on September 5, 1999, and came in weighing a very healthy 8 pounds, 2



Newborn Ian Manuel Sanders.

ounces, measuring 20 inches in length. Officer **John Sanders** and his wife, Madeline, recently became the proud parents of a bouncing baby boy. We salute and welcome baby **Ian Manuel Sanders**, who was born on July 9, 1999, at precisely 12:08 p.m. Ian weighed in at 5 pounds, 9 ounces, and measured 17 inches. Congratulations to all of you on your new family additions and best of luck in the future.

### Congratulations

I also wish to congratulate Officer **Cliff Humphris** on his recent marriage. Cliff tied the knot on Saturday, May 22,



The happy newlyweds - Cliff and Linda Humphris.

1999, at 6:00 p.m. when he wed his beautiful bride, Linda. The happy couple celebrated their union aboard the yacht "Island Girl" in the Newport Beach Harbor. Cliff and Linda, congratulations on your wedding and we wish you a lifetime of happiness and joy.

### ...and Speaking of Weddings

Sgt. Paul "Hop-along" Acosta just celebrated one that occurred many

years ago. Paul and his wife, Sharon, recently celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary. Paul and Sharon were high school sweethearts who married before they were 20, which kind of gives you an idea of their age. Sharon, I have to hand it to you, putting up with Paul for 30 years is no easy task. Congratulations on your long marriage and we wish you many more years of bliss.

### Ho Hum...

**Maria Roubos** has been so excited since her encounter with a certain hunk that she has been begging me to tell you all about it. It seems that Maria and her partner, **John Mungia, Jr.**, were at the Hollenbeck Youth Center one evening during ceremonies for the Inner City



Arnold, Maria and John. Maria is all smiles.

Games when an actor of some fame, whom some of you may recognize from the photo, took a liking to her. Maria states that upon seeing her, Super Hero Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger could not keep his eyes off her and quickly made his way towards her. Maria also says that after putting his arm around her Arnold told her that she was the most beautiful police officer he had ever seen. Maria, I told you I would tell everyone the story. Now I just wonder what your new husband is going to say when he reads this, and yes, I agree with Arnold, you are beautiful.

### Welcome

We would like to extend a welcome hand to Sgt. **W. Guillary**, coming to us from EODD. We also welcome back **Ramon Menendez**, who returns to Hollenbeck after a stint at Northeast. We say hi to P-2 **V. Mendoza**, joining us from Foothill Division, and to P-2 **B. Tran**, coming to us via West L.A. We also have two probationary officers joining the Hollenbeck ranks. They are **A. Hanna** and **B. Williams**. Welcome all!

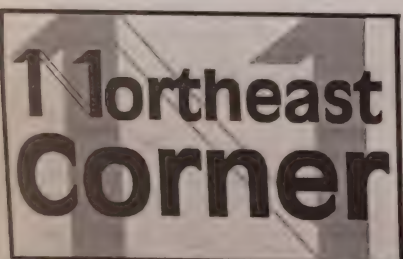
### So Long

Congratulations and goodbye to **Gabriel Rivas**, who promoted to Detective and is now in the building at Narcotics Division. We also congratulate

**Alfred "Rhino" Avalos**, who fulfills his dream of being a super cop by being assigned to Metropolitan Division. P-2 **A. Bjelland** is now investigating TCs at STD, and P-2 **R. Petillo** is now patrolling the streets of Southwest. Good luck to all of you in your respective new assignments.

### Que Paso?

This month's salute goes out to my good buddy, **Candice "Sweet Candy" Hensley**, who has been doing a wonderful job for us in the Senior Lead Office. Candy, thanks for all your hard work.



by Lauro V. Montes  
Northeast Division

On Tuesday, September 21st, at approximately 1400 hours, a 211 in Progress call was broadcast at the Ramada Inn located at Lexington Ave. and Vermont Ave. The suspects were described as three male blacks armed with handguns. Units 11C6 (Officers **Joel Flores**, #30658, **Ken Korn**, #31500, and **Gabe Rodriguez**, #31252), 11A19 (Officers

**J. C. Duarte**, #24761 and **Harold Marinelli**, #24801), and 11L40 (Sgt. **Frank Orlando**, #27431) were the first units at the scene. Two of the three suspects attempted to flee on foot but after repeated commands and an O.I.S., both suspects were taken into custody. Responding LAPD personnel handled



Sept. 23, 1999 - Morning Watch Award to Hector Olivera, David Cedeño.

the perimeter and SWAT was requested. An intensive search revealed that the third suspect had eluded officers.

Along with two suspects, two handguns were also recovered. The six officers who were first on-scene are to be commended for their quick response, teamwork, communication skills and tactics in dealing with two armed suspects. A special thanks to all additional personnel and SWAT. A special thanks to all additional personnel, SWAT, K9 and members of the Protective League.

### 10851 Award

The enclosed photo depicts Officer **Hector Olivera**, #33064, receiving his 10851 plaque from Northeast Detective **David Cedeño** on September 23rd in the roll call room. The award is given to the officer that makes three observation GTA arrests in a three-month period.

### Promotions

Congratulations to Officer **Ubaldo Zesati**, #30078, on his recent promotion to P-3 (remains), and to Officer **Mark Allen**, #27467, on his recent promotion to P-3+1 (remains).

### Commendable Northeast Caper

On September 28th, a purse snatch occurred at the Yucca restaurant located at the corner of Price St. and Hillhurst Ave. in the Los Feliz area. The suspect was described as a male white who fled the location on foot with the victim's clutch purse. Unit 11Q21 (Officers **Jason Armandariz**, #30868, and **George Goodyear**, #27594) and Unit 11C6 (Officers **Joel Flores**, #30658 and **Steve Hahn**, #31989) responded to the call. En

route to the call Officers **Armandariz** and **Goodyear** observed a male matching the description crouched down beside a vehicle and out of breath. Because they were approximately two blocks from the crime scene they detained the suspect. Officers **Flores** and **Hahn** not only verified the purse snatch but also discovered there was a second victim. The second victim (of an ADW) encountered the suspect as he fled the crime scene. The suspect brandished his semi-automatic at the second victim. Officers **Flores** and **Hahn** transported both victims to the suspect's location for a field showup. Both victims positively identified the suspect. The suspect was then transported to Northeast station for booking.

Additional: This suspect was linked to between fifteen and twenty 211s and purse snatches in the Los Feliz area.

### Bienvenidos

Det. **Barron** from NEWT, P2 **Whitelaw** from WVAL, and recruits **Boylls**, **Dyer**, **Kim** and **Olsey**.

### Adios

Det. **Kennedy** to BAD, P2 **Menendez** to HOBK, P1 **Jackson**, and PSR **Karraker** to HWD.

### Medal of Valor

Congratulations to Officer **James Edwards**, #27768, who was recently awarded the Department's highest honor.

### Final Word

That about wraps it up for this month. I know it's a little early, but here's wishing everyone the best Thanksgiving day ever. C-ya next month.

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# HOLLYWOOD HAPPENINGS

by Floyd Toledo  
Hollywood Division

## In-Outs-N-Ups

As we prepare for our time change, let's look around and see what personnel changes have occurred during DP#10. New Detectives **R. Bengtson** and **K. Leduc** are here working their respective



Racquetball.

tables. (That's detective talk.) From the academy came P-1s **E. King** and **K. Koskelin**. Welcome to you both.

Exiting for the normal world are Det. **H. Henry** to Narco Division, and Sgt. **L. Jerrett** is headed for TRSG Division. There goes P-2 **N. Baez** to 77th Division, P-2 **J. Nuttall** on to DARE, and **A. Saldana** has made it to NHWD by now. P-2 **J. Manning** went to VTD.

Promoting and staying is P-3 **D. Lewis**. On the civilian side is **R. Poydras** promoting to MA1. Welcome to PSR **K. Karraker** on her arrival here.

## Paintball Wars

The first annual police versus fire paintball competition was held recently. The teams arrived early and read to defend their department's honor. Six different battlefields were used to accommodate the fierce competition. Al-

though there were many casualties, no one actually got injured. Officer **Mike Glenn** was credited with firing one interesting shot that struck the event coordinator in his lower extremities. Although surprised by the incident, he continued to fight with sweat and tears running down his face. By 1630 hours both teams, which included friends and family members on both sides, were covered with dirt, paint and lots of smiles. To sign up for the next paintball wars, send an E-mail to the event coordinator, Officer **Jeff Beck**, #31957, at HWD Station.

## Racquetball Tournament

On September 20, 1999, after weeks of verbal challenging, the officers assigned to the Hollywood Bicycle Patrol Unit faced off in a racquetball tournament against the officers assigned to Holly-

zadeh, **Dave Estrada**, **Jim Tumbeiro**, **Jim Mateer**, **Greg Chin**, and **Dan Pesqueira**.

## Baker to Vegas 2000

**Jim Mateer**, Hollywood Division Running Team Captain, has begun the necessary planning for the 2000 Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. Last year the Hollywood Running Team broke the 15-hour barrier for the first time. The Hollywood Division Running Team has finished in the top 10, mixed division in eight of the last night years. We have been the fastest LAPD mixed team in four of the last five years. Training runs will be scheduled for December through

Mud Run for the third consecutive year. Hollywood Division was represented by several teams including Patrol, Vice and other units. The day began early, the air filled with the scent of competition. Officer **Norm Peters** fell down early on but finished with the team. Officer **Jess Beltran** used "floaties" to swim across the deeper pits of mud. Everybody involved finished in fine form making Hollywood proud. The day concluded with burgers, beverages and showers. A truly bonding experience.

The following officers participated (see photo): From L to R, Sgt. **Chuck Buttitta**, **Mark Leon**, Sgt. **Alan Hamilton**, **Brian Heany**, **Norm Peters**, **Jesse**



Mud Run.

February with run-offs held in March. Anyone interested in joining the Hollywood Division Running Team should hurry and transfer to Hollywood before DP 1, 2000, the cutoff for joining the team.

## Annual Mud Run

On Sept. 12, 1999, the Hollywood Vice/PED Team attended the 4th annual

Beltran, **Katrina Kroeker**, **Josh Buttitta**, **Crystal Hayes**, **Mark Garza**, **Jeff Ingalls**, **Mike Nelson**, **Dan Strojny**, and Sgt. **Bill Eaton**.

Remember: When you go for your Metro oral, get your uniform pressed and make sure that it's ready on the day of your oral. If not, don't panic, just be cool, like P-3 **Dan Gonzalez** did. Is this what started the Metro tuxedo? ♦

More Divisional Reporter on next page

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## DIVISIONAL REPORTER

# Southern Tip

by Alley Cat  
Harbor Division

We all know by now what has been going on in LAPD. The news has portrayed us as all dirty cops. Rampart and Harbor Divisions have been in the *L.A. Times* and on all major news networks. We are headlines and will continue to be as long as we make foolish mistakes. Don't forget the headlines can reflect what a good department we are by the great deeds we do every day in the streets of Los Angeles. We are all responsible for taking care of business and making sure the job is done correctly. You are all responsible for reporting misconduct and

if there are dirty cops, to help get rid of them. I know I feel like a trust has been broken, that will take a long time to heal. No, I don't mean the trust of the citizens. I mean the officers I work the streets of Los Angeles with. The citizens have stopped me in the streets and stated that they still trust us and want us around. I have even talked with dope fiends that have stated the same thing. To all of the honest and hard-working cops on this job, keep doing what you do with dignity and pride. Keep your heads held high and don't let management make you feel bad. We all know that a hunt is on for bad cops. Don't get caught up in the whirlwind that has started. Don't be a rumor monger either. This can do more damage than good to all involved. There are good and bad managers within LAPD. Don't think that all of them are out to get you. Diarrhea of the mouth can be a problem for all of us. Enough said, continue to be a proud and honest cop.

Christmas is right around the corner and we all must be prepared for the special holiday. Within each division there is community relations and officers that help the community. Please be part of this

and help where you can to the less fortunate. Plan on a good Christmas with your families, because we will all be working on New Years.

I would like to personally thank the organization of "Blues in the Night" for all the support and contributions they have made to LAPD/Harbor Division. I'm unable to list all the persons and companies individually, but you know who you are and Harbor has a booklet that lists these benefactors. You have shown that the citizens of San Pedro, Wilmington, Harbor City and Harbor Gateway really do care about their community and officers who work for them.

It would appear that promotions are going up. Harbor Vice had an OIC, Sgt. Tom McMullen, promote to lieutenant and also get transferred to Foothill Division. Good luck, Tom, and please don't come back to Harbor. P-3 Mario Cortez, Det. Loanece, finally passed the big test and made Det.-I. He is en route to Newton Detectives to be with his sidekick Jesse Valle. Sgt. Rich Harper went back to STD where he came from. He had to give up a motor spot to make sergeant, but he is going back to Motors for his last tour. We lost a few young P-2s: S. Beaty (CENT), R. Loya (DARE), J. Retamozo (DARE), and B. Gregson (WIL). The inbound and down, Lt. J. Duncan from

SB-HOM, Det.-III L. Jones (SB-HOM), Sgt. S. Procaccini (77th), Sgt. J. Mays (TBD), Det.-II M. Perkins (SB-HOM), Det.-II K. Petrash (SB-HOM), Det.-I O. Joya (SB-HOM), and Det.-I R. Poole (SB-HOM). Now for the real cops coming in: P-3 P. Inabu (SB-HOM), and P-3 Ed Vidaillet (WLA). This is Vidaillet's second tour at Harbor Division. The new/old batch of P-2s: N. Stang (NHWD), T. Alonzo (PAC), S. Reece (PAC), M. Ayers (WIL), T. Carpenter (WIL), R. Forest (WIL), and D. Mendoza (WLA). The newbys from TD-REC: C. Brown and F. Cazares. I hope these transfers make everyone happy and you got what you wished for. If not, tell the chief.

Congratulations have to go to Sgt. Fred Miller for picking a Vice 2 spot, replacing Tom McMullen. Remember Fred, it's only for 18 months and then you have to start working again at the promotion ladder. Two more youngsters were promoted to plus ones: Juan Reyes and Cathy Riggs. We also had the pleasure of making a new P-3, Michelle Santillan. Congratulations all of you.

If I missed any one of the transfer list, let me know, I'll get you in on the December Line.

Please be careful out there and don't forget to get a rep prior to being interviewed on any matters within LAPD.

## RHD Divisional Dragnet

by Det. Tom Wich  
Robbery Homicide Division

### Commendable Incidents

Well, how about some good news? No matter what is being said in the press about our department, 99.9% of our officers still respect the badge and for what it stands. Without these honorable individuals our society would be in a sad state of affairs. Speaking of good work, let me tell you about our month.

Detectives from the Robbery Specials and Bank Squad have had one heck of a month. We started out the month investigating the kidnapping of a mother and her 12-year-old daughter from Hollenbeck Division. The units then investigated the armed robbery of an armored truck, then finished off the month with the kidnap investigation of the brother of a Los Angeles Police Officer. These investigations all had a successful conclusion with the victims rescued and six suspects arrested from the armored car robbery. A lot of hard work and long hours went into each of these investigations. We would like to thank the officers and detectives from Hollenbeck and West Valley Divisions along with the officers from the elite Metropolitan Division, primarily D-platoon, who risked their lives in rescu-

ing one of our kidnap victims. Without the assistance of these fine officers, these cases may have had a tragic ending.

### New Arrival

We would like to welcome D-III Jesse Alvarado from DSG, who will be assigned to Rape Specials.

### Promotions

Congratulations to new D-IIIs Tom Brascia and Mike Berchem, both of

Figueria in Northeast Division). This will be a good/fun event only if we get participation from all of YOU. For \$10 you will get a good dinner, entertainment and all the extras that come with it. We look forward to having you join us for this festive occasion.

The formal party will be held at the La Canada Country Club, Friday, December 17th.

Det. Marlow and I have begun planning for the first ever RHD family reun-

commemorative t-shirt, K-9 demonstration, Air Support helicopter landing, horseshoe competition, volleyball, etc. Give Det. Marlow a call at 485-2129 if you have any ideas or questions. This will work only if we get active and retired RHD personnel to attend. We would appreciate your feedback on this matter.

### Retirements

How about this! Two more detectives have decided that it's time to hang-em up and move on to greener pastures. After nearly 30 years, 29.7 to be exact, of dedicated service to this fine city and its citizens D-III Fred Miller has decided to pull the pin and become an investigator for Travelers Insurance. Fred's retirement will be held at the academy on Wednesday, November 17th, with cocktail hour beginning at 1700 hours followed by dinner at 1800 hours. The cost is \$22 per person. Contact Detectives Ron Ito and/or Bud Watts or Chris Arce at 213-485-2531 or 2155. The other retiree is D-II Bud Watts who has served this city for 26 plus years. As of this article a retirement function has yet to be planned. I hope to have info for the next article.

Ted Ball would like to thank everyone for their attendance at his retirement gala. A raffle was held for a new 9mm with the proceeds going to the Memorial Fund. Seven hundred and fifty dollars was raised, and, fancy this, Ted's ex-partner, Ed Ramirez, won the 9mm.

Until next time, BE SAFE.  
P.S., to all the members of the Parker Center bodybuilders association, the "Bulldog" won the yearly pose-off.



John Cassotta and his son John Cassotta Jr. receiving Certificates of Appreciation for their involvement in the North Hollywood shootout. Presented at RHD on 9/8/99 by Chief Parks. (L-R) Lt. Grayson, John Cassotta, Cmdr. York, John Cassotta Jr. and Det. Wich. Both of these men work for Armored Transport. John Sr. is VP of Corporate Security and John Jr. works Corporate Security. They risked their lives helping us that day.

whom will remain in Homicide Specials.

### Upcoming Events

The holiday season has finally come upon us. The citywide detective "holiday" party has been set for Thursday, December 2nd from 1700-2400 hours. The party will be held at Ramona's Hall, 4580 North Figueroa (Ave. 45 and

ion steak-fry. We have reserved the picnic area at the academy for Saturday, June 10th, from 1200 hours on. In order to make this work we will need your ideas and help. Some of the suggestions that we are looking into are having a group photo,

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by Officer Robert Peters, Tunnel Rat  
Transit Group

## Beware of Falling Officers!

I saw a peanut stand, heard a rubber band, saw a needle that winked its eye . . . but I think I seen about everything when I see a bunch-a-cops fly!

Okay, maybe that's not how the song goes, but it is how our division seems to be going. Several of our more daring TRD officers, led by Officer **Erin Larsen**, chose skydiving for death and dismemberment later, and those officers were soaring like falling bricks as they jumped from a perfectly operational aircraft. Roll call training lately has included the video that was taken of their jumps followed by intensive psychotherapy sessions.

For anyone who wishes to join their next attempt at mass suicide, there will be another jump on October 3rd. Just

contact Officer **Larsen** at TRD. I was going to join them, but I get all woozy at heights.

## Shots Fired

Finally, after many promises and attempts, the Transit Rail Division shooting range has opened. Officer **Sam Shepard** (one of our current HITS instructors at TRD) will be the range master and has already begun preparations for the operation of the range. Sam informs me that he is expecting help from the training unit in the form of other TRD officers being sent to HITS school in the very near future. So if you are even close to that magical 380+ bonus score, get shootin', then contact **Billy Brockway** or Sgt. **John Vanelli**. Remember, you have to notify the Firearms Unit of your intention to shoot for HITS qualification PRIOR to your bonus round. Good luck.

## Hostage Crisis Averted, Perpetrators Still at Large!

In a follow-up from last month's story, Lt. **Davis** was ecstatic at the safe return of his beloved "San Francisco City Limits" sign from the kidnappers who identified themselves as "The People's Choice." There has been no word as to the progress of the investigation or whether there are any suspects in the case. However, sources close to the investigation (okay, I don't have any

REAL sources, I'm making that part up) say that Attorney General Janet Reno is involved (okay, that's not strictly true either), and that the perpetrators will be brought to a kangaroo-court style of justice (yeah, hold your breath). Where's a Judge Roy Bean when you need one?

## Families Come First

Proving that families come first at TRD, we were proud to begin the tradition of the annual Family Appreciation Day at TRD. With tours of the entire Metro Red Line system, including the Rail Operations Center, food and games for the kids and many fine trees sacrificed in the name of advertisement, the Family Day was a success. However, it was almost not to be.

During the early morning hours of September 25th, the very morning of the festivities, it was discovered that there was a drastic shortage of (gasp) hot dog buns and condiments. This discovery was made by an extremely observant, dedicated and good looking officer with excellent personal taste. (Okay, I made that up too. It was really **Rich Mathias** who figured it out.) At any rate, Rich went out with his own money and procured the necessary food items, including (God bless'm) spicy brown mustard. Way to go, Rich! Look for your commendation in the mail . . . I swear it's there . . . yup, mailed it myself.

Keep looking, partner.

## The Dirty 30 Gets Dirtier!

Ever since last month's article where I suggested that TRD might knock off some of the heavier running teams during the Baker 2 Vegas 2000, I have been

getting nasty calls and letters. (Not really.) In fact, I had mentioned that we might try to knock off Metropolitan Division from their top-seated position as the overall winners of the last B2V Challenge Cup. This prediction was met with some derision and general name calling.

HOWEVER . . . What could possibly be harder than running a 10K through the California/Nevada desert? How 'bout running it in "boots and utes" through waist- and chest-deep mud? Impossible, you say. Not impossible. The Dirty 30 mud-run team finished in fine form during the Wayside Mud Run held at the Wayside Honor Rancho on September 19th. Officers **Kouri, Capa, Ochoa, Rodgers** and **West**, from TRD PM Watch, ran together and finished ahead of several other LAPD teams, including (drum roll please) a couple of teams from Metropolitan Division. Good job, y'all . . . I have a feeling we're gonna do well at the B2V 2K, provided, of course, that I don't run.

Weelllll . . . that about does it from Transit Group this month. We had another successful steak fry with the help of **Mike Hall, Nathan Kouri, Sgt. Elaine Morales, Rich Mathias** and **Tony Ochoa**. Mike Hall was quoted as saying, "We are taking in a good sum of money, and we are well on our way to Las Vegas."

For the race, of course . . . right, Mike? . . . Mike?

Hey, has anyone seen Mike?

## More Divisional Reporter on next page

# USD Uniformed Support Division

by D. Ryan Swanson  
Uniform Services Division

Here goes . . . USD is casting its proverbial hat into the pages of *The Thin Blue Line*. For those who think USD stands for a new brand of candy bar, my opening comments are to you. We're here for you! Uniformed Support Division is a conglomeration of units that support and supplement field officers with expertise and in some instances new equipment. Use us!

Moving on to our USD family . . . Sgt. 1+2 **John Gambill**, currently on loan from VTD, received a telephone call in August that every parent dreads. The call was from the University Medical Center in North Las Vegas, informing him that his 22-year-old daughter, Shauna, had been seriously injured in a car accident. Shauna Gambill, who is the reigning Miss World USA, was listed in critical condition after being airlifted to the hospital with a fractured neck and back, severe scalp injuries and severe facial cuts. After a week of uncertainty, Shauna recovered sufficiently to return to California and will recover without any paralysis. She is even planning her upcoming wedding. By the time you read this, she will be married (and Sgt. Gambill will probably be begging around the office for lunch money). Sgt. Gambill credits an airbag and a seatbelt harness for giving this story a happy ending.

It's been some time since the Bicycle Coordination Section (BCU) has seen the inside of these blue pages. First and foremost, new bicycles have arrived. We are just awaiting the arrival of the "light and siren" packages, the Jandd packs, and our issued equipment. Yes, it is true. The Department will now issue our helmet, gloves and safety glasses. Sgt. **Vance Bjorklund** and new PO-II **Donna Tuk** have worked tenaciously for these new additions.

Speaking of successes, let's talk about us some more. The 1999 Summer Games were held in Pasadena this year, and the LAPD bicycle team put in an outstanding performance. The team compiled 16 medals and finished in the top 10 a total of 12 times. Leading the pack was PO-II **Doug Wilson** with four gold medals and one silver. But that wasn't enough for you, was it Doug? You had to go to Sweden for the World Police and Fire Games and win another silver along with a bronze. Hope you're proud of yourself because we certainly are (even though your idea for a DJ for the Christmas party fell through).

There are some special events going on at the Special Events Planning Unit (SEPU) these days. Seems four of the last five officers (in addition to a clerk-typist) assigned over there have become "with child." PO-III **Randie Martinez** is currently off on maternity leave and along with husband, Officer **Larry Martinez**, is awaiting the birth of their child, who is due on October 21st. Good luck, Randie.

The heartiest of tidings go out to Capt. **M. M. Wasson**, who departed USD for MTD after nearly two years. At the behest of new Capt. **Scott C. Kroeber**, planning is underway for USD's holiday party 1999. It's scheduled for Dec. 11 at the Westin Bonaventure. Tickets are \$42.50 per person. Talk to Rhonda Katinos at TCS if you're interested, but make sure you buy before the drop-dead date of Dec. 1, 1999.

And finally, USD bids farewell to one of its best officers ever, **Maria Peppers**. Nine years ago Maria came here from VTD and was assigned to work the Traffic Safety Unit, and then the Noise Enforcement Team (NET) and finally to Specialized Enforcement Unit (SEU). During this time, Maria achieved the impossible: She worked the noise complaint desk (read "battle zone") and never received one personnel complaint! If you know Maria, you totally understand this because her patience and kind heart is reflected in everything she says and does. We pulled out all the stops to keep her here, but it was not to be. Maria, if you're reading this, thank you for all the lives you touched here. You will be missed!

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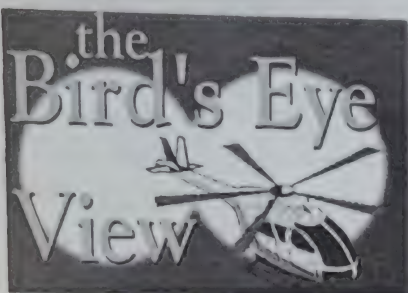
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## DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Cole Burdette  
Air Support Division

### ASD Happenings

What's cookin' at Air Support Division? Well, for one our new kitchen/break room is under construction. Once again Sgt. **Al Thatcher** has boldly spearheaded another project to make our station more beautiful. Things are going to be pretty cramped in roll call for a while but bear with us and it will all be worth it. I actually think a toaster, two microwaves, coffee machine, two refrigerators and a fine assortment of condiments and plastic dinnerware should be available in every roll call room. But that's just me. I'm funny that way I guess.

Well, as I mentioned last month, our pilot vacancies are being filled. We held oral interviews and the following officers were selected: **Jack Schonely**, Chief Tactical Flight Officer, ASD; **Ken Phillippe**, Tactical Flight Officer, ASD Special Flights Section; **Gil Campos**, Tactical Flight Officer, ASD; **Bob Price**, Management Resources Division. Congratulations to all of you. These officers will be entering pilot training as space allows. As you can see,

three of these spots are from inside Air Support so those of you who took our Tactical Flight Officer orals should be in good shape. We should have the results of those orals next month.

The new influx of pilots also requires Certified Flight Instructors. Officer **Robert Percy** stepped in to accept this challenge and every one of these pilot candidates will soon learn to appreciate this. I would list Bob's aviation credentials but this article limits me to 900 words, and that wouldn't even leave space for Bob's cover sheet. Let's just say Orville and Wilbur took the snap, they handed off to Bob and he's still running. Bob Percy will join **Dan Johnson** as our "in-house" pilot training staff. **Dave Gomez** has now completed his two years as an ASD CFI and I'm sure is ready for a break. From all of those you molded and all of us who fly with them, "Thanks, Gomes."

This month Tower Operations Officer **Roger Mossett** is recovering from back surgery. You are in our prayers for a speedy recovery, Roger. Get well soon. Don't rush though, Roger. Your partner up there, **Steve Brown**, has agreed to talk some extra trash while you're away. With Steve filling in for you it's almost like you were still here. If you need anything, call 2600 or "give us a light."

### ASD Tip of the Month

Let's discuss something near and dear to us all—"Clusters." (Yes, I realize there are really supposed to be two words here but I'm trying really hard to be politically correct.) Clusters are those incidents where a few minutes

into it we wish we could hide, say never mind, sorry everyone, oops, that wasn't me, my rover was stolen, or anything else to make this big cluster . . . go away.

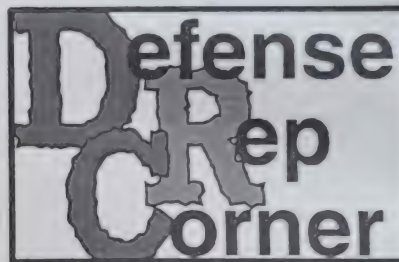
I'll admit I've had them on the ground and I've been over them in the air. Let's first look at some common factors I've noticed so that we can all try to avoid this unfortunate situation and learn from our mistakes. Clusters seem to occur most commonly when we don't know exactly what we have. In our line of work this is very common. You rarely know exactly what you have until you investigate it. In an effort to "not overreact" we sometimes request units and "kind of" set up a perimeter, stay on base frequency or the emergency channel, hold one side of the street and have units just "rove" around in the area and a variety of other very creative techniques.

This attempt to downplay an incident has now created a great big unorganized cluster. It can also be unsafe. We can solve all of this by being decisive. If you think you might have

something and it requires a perimeter, get one. You can always break it down. There is only one kind of perimeter—an LAPD perimeter. This means containment on all sides, a tactical frequency with a request for prowler simulcasts, no pedestrians or traffic in or out, an Air Unit and a safe location for a C.P. to sort it all out. Now we are all on the same sheet of music, we know our jobs and we take care of business. The right way.

Now take your time and see if it's worth continuing. If it turns out to be no crime or no search criteria, break it down and debrief. No harm in breaking one down; it was a good training setting it up right. It's all about doing things right. There is no other way and it keeps us all safe. (If anyone has experienced a cluster in the past and needs to talk about it, call me and I'll give you a number for the "cluster" support group. I'm a lifetime member.)

You watch your six and we'll watch the rest. Take care.



by Paul M. Weber  
Officer Representation Section

### Congratulations:

Don Lint was awarded the Defense Representative of the Year, in San Diego at that 1999 League Delegates conference. Don has been a defense representative for over four years. He has earned a well deserved reputation for dedication, hard work and tenacity when representing his officers. On behalf of all the staff and defense representatives at ORS we congratulate Don on this honor.

Ted Hunt was selected by the Board of Directors to become the President for the remainder of this year. Ted has been a strong supporter of defense representatives while on the Board. We wish him luck in his new assignment!

This article deals with the Americans with Disability Act. This is designed to give you a brief overview only. If you believe you have an ADA issue and need help, contact the League at (213) 251-4554. They will refer you to an attorney who is an expert in this area.

#### 1. Question: What is the ADA?

Answer: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal civil rights law. It gives federal civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities similar to those provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in state and local government services, public accommodations, employment, transportation, and telecommunications.

#### 2. Question: How does the ADA affect my law enforcement duties?

Answer: Title II of the ADA prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in state and local governments' services, programs, and employment. Law enforcement agencies are covered because they are programs of state or local governments, regardless of whether they receive federal grants or other federal funds. The ADA affects virtually everything that officers and deputies do. For example: Receiving citi-

zen complaints, interrogating witnesses, arresting, booking, and holding suspects; operating telephone (911) emergency centers, providing emergency medical services, enforcing laws, and other duties.

#### 3. Question: Who does the ADA protect?

Answer: The ADA covers a wide range of individuals with disabilities. An individual is considered to have a disability if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that substantially



Greg Dust & William O'Keefe, LAPD retired—they are both in Kosovo with the UN if you want to write to them: Dyncorp, 1 Ridgeman Center, 6500 W. Freeway, Fort Worth, TX 76116. Attn: Greg Dust, Kosovo Project.

limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.

Major life activities include such things as caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working. To be substantially limited means that such activities are restricted in the manner, condition, or duration in which they are performed in comparison with most people.

The ADA also protects people who are discriminated against because of their association with a person with a disability.

#### 4. Question: What about someone who uses illegal drugs?

Answer: Nothing in the ADA prevents officers and deputies from enforcing criminal laws relating to an individual's current use or possession of illegal drugs.

If you need a question answered or help with a complaint, Officer Representation Section is open 0800-1800, Monday through Friday, at PAB room 813. We can be contacted at (213) 485-9516.

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# All R-Round Town

by Cathy Hardy  
Metropolitan Division

Greetings from the hub. First, best wishes and a heartfelt thank you to all veterans. Please remember to wave Old Glory! I not only view flying the stars and stripes as a patriotic duty, but an inimitable sign of pride and respect to all Americans, especially to those who have given the ultimate human sacrifice on our behalf. Meanwhile, back on the second floor of Fort Davis, here is the latest I can write about without getting into too much hot water.

## Incoming

Before I announce the latest to join the Metro family, here is a tidbit of info. We are now in the process of oral interviews for prospective P3 personnel. One hundred orals. Enough said. Wel-

come and congratulations to the newest squad leaders—**Paola Kreefft**, 70A; **Michelle Veenstra**, 70B; and **James Bilodeau**, 70C. Welcome to Officer **Alfredo Avalos**, newest C-pltn element member.

## It's Only Been 30 Years

Congratulations to Plus One **Steve Stear** of D team. Class of 9/69, Steve is just getting warmed up! Hold on to your hats. Congratulations to Plus One Day Watch Assistant Watch Commander **Art Aguilar**. Art has been a Metro Man since November 2, 1969. Undoubtedly, a precedent not likely to be seen again. But then, this is Metro... Felicitacion Arturo!

On September 15, 1999, at the Regal Biltmore Hotel, the Los Angeles Police Department bestowed its highest honor upon 18 officers. Metropolitan Division Officers **Jack Parker**, **Chris Yzaguirre**, **Louie Villalobos**, **Ossie Crenshaw**, **James Veenstra**, **Dave Rodriguez** and **Bruce Hunt** were awarded the Medal of Valor.

Officer Jack Parker was awarded the department's highest honor for his display of extreme courage during an off-duty altercation. *Reader's Digest* version, Jack and Reserve Officer **Deborah Fairchild** observed an alterca-

tion that resulted in a shooting with one victim down. Jack and R.O. Fairchild identified themselves as police officers, advised the patrons at the location to call for assistance and pursued the suspects on foot, then in vehicles, suspects pulled over, sped off again, stopped the vehicle, bailed out and were pursued on foot by Parker, all the while firing shots at the officers. Although Jack sustained injuries to his knees and hand during the foot pursuit, his keen presence of mind, determination, and extreme courage prevailed and he apprehended the suspects without further incident.

Officer Chris Yzaguirre, assigned to Foothill Division, on loan to Devonshire, was one of the first officers to arrive at the help call with a downed Glendale detective. Against the advice of supervision on-scene, Yzaguirre and other officers formulated rescue plans while awaiting the arrival of SWAT. Yzaguirre entered the warehouse location twice. Each time he was faced with a barrage of gunfire. During the second entry, Yzaguirre placed himself in the line of fire and returned cover in an effort to rescue LAPD officers who were now injured by the suspect's fire. Upon arrival of SWAT Officers **Jimmy Veenstra** and **Bruce Hunt**, K-9 Handler **John Hall** and K-9 **Sabre** entered the location. The suspect fired at Sabre,

missing him. Hall and Sabre cleared several rooms and offices while Veenstra, Hunt and five additional officers advanced into the foyer of the warehouse. Veenstra and Hunt provided cover as Sabre entered the location where the fallen officer lay. The suspect again fired at Sabre, missing him. Veenstra and Hunt returned cover fire. A new rescue team was formed with the arrival of SWAT officers **Louie Villalobos**, **Ossie Crenshaw** and **Dave Rodriguez**. A flash bang device was deployed as Villalobos and Crenshaw entered the location. As the suspect fired at them, Rodriguez entered the location to assist Villalobos and Crenshaw while Veenstra and Hunt exchanged gunfire with the suspect. Although rescued from the building, the Glendale detective succumbed to his injuries. After no response from the suspect still inside the location, tear gas was deployed. The officers discovered the pusillanimous suspect dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. The determination of all the officers involved, solidarity, attention to duty and ability to maintain paramount focus in the face of chaotic circumstances epitomize the definition of valor. Congratulations to all Medal of Valor recipients.

Happy turkey day! R-10girl, clear.

# ACADEMY NEWS

by David Koeh  
Training Division

## Outstanding Instructor for the 2-99 Class

Congratulations to **Kristi Sandoval**. Kristi was selected as the Outstanding Instructor for the 2-99 class by its members! Kristi received a plaque and an all-you-can-eat buffet with Chief Parks and his guests at the 2-99 graduation.

## Quilt Man

Officer **Jeff Freyermuth's** wife, Terri, sewed together numerous Baker-to-Vegas t-shirts from previous years, onto a large quilt. Jeff displayed his wife's outstanding project for all of Training Division to view. Terri telephoned us at Training Division to remind Jeff not to confuse the quilt with one of their camping sleeping bags. Of course, Jeff denied this allegation.



Ofcr. Freyermuth's wife, Terri, created this quilt.

## Heroes of the Day

The 2-99 class was privileged to be in the presence of modern-day warriors. During their Pride Run in August,



Heroes of the day - Ofcrs. Jim Marshall and Bruce Barrios.

1999, a Pacific Division sergeant had been driving in the area of the run, searching for a possible burglary suspect. As the sergeant approached a possible burglary suspect vehicle, the vehicle immediately evaded the sergeant. The sergeant pursued the vehicle in the neighborhood of the Ahmanson Recruit Training Center (ARTC) Academy. Officer **Kristi Sandoval** maneuvered her patrol vehicle so that the other recruits would not be endangered by this fleeing felon. The suspect collided his vehicle into a residence and then fled on foot. Officers **Jim Marshall** (Recruit Coordination Training Unit) and **Bruce Barrios** (Physical Training

his LAPD badge and identification card to everyone who had the privilege to view these items. Comm. **Pannell** (Training Group) was present to meet Mr. Nerkins. Thank you for visiting us, Mr. Nerkins.

## Transfers and Promotions

Congratulations to Officers **Tango**, **Utley**, **Arnett**, **Eagle**, **Schwacher**, **Gamble**, and **Tyler** on their transfers to Training Division. Congratulations to Officers **Arnett**, **Eagle**, **Tyler**, and **Perez** on their advancements to PIII.

We would like to thank the following for their outstanding service to Training Division: Sgt. **Bilodeau**, who transferred



From left to right: (Top) Ofcr. Daniel, Sgt. Padilla, Eldridge, Sgt. Conta, retired Ofcr. Nerkins, Commander Pannell, Robin Gregn, Ofcrs. Min and Palacios. (Bottom) Ofcrs. Kalkus, Komathy and Perez.

to Metro Division; Officers **Duggan** and **Korne** on their promotions to the rank of detective; Officer **Solis**, who transferred to Southwest Division; Officer **Huerstel**, who transferred to Detective Support Division; and Officer **Salcedo**, who transferred to Central Division.

## More Divisional Reporter on next page



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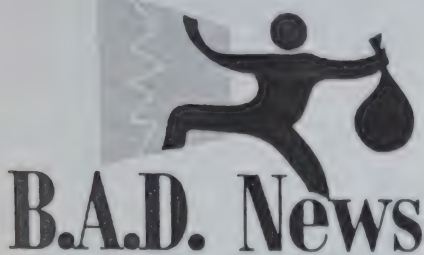
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# DIVISIONAL REPORTER



by Lou Koven  
Burglary Auto Theft

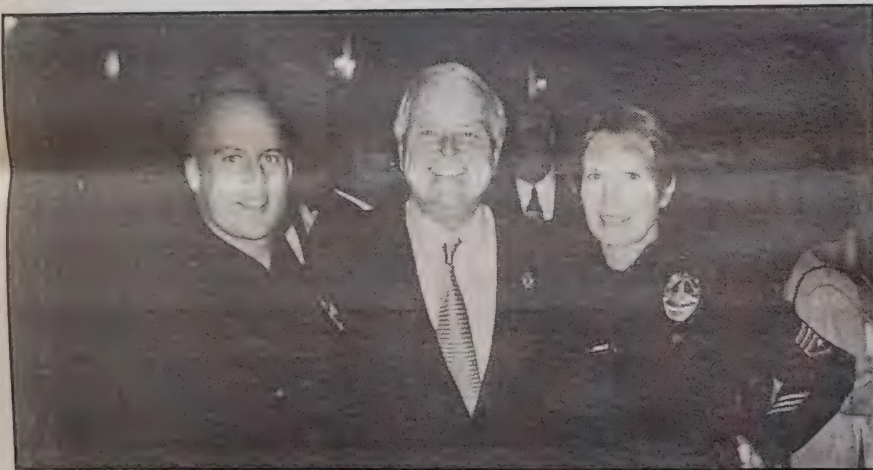
## In-Out-Up

Congratulations go to Det. **Yvette Moreno**, who was promoted to Det.-III and will remain in the CAT Section, and **Pete Wilson**, West TRAP, who was promoted to Detective and will go to Juvenile Division.

BAD welcomes two detectives, **David Kennedy** from Northeast Division and **Daryl McLemore** from South Bureau Homicide. David is currently assigned to TRAP and Daryl is assigned to Burglary Special/Pawns.

## Medal of Valor Awarded to BAD Family Member

On Sept. 15, 1999, the department held the annual Medal of Valor luncheon at a downtown hotel. The luncheon was well attended by both citizens and sworn personnel. The chief awarded the Medal of Valor to the officers who were recognized for their heroic acts of bravery. Actor Tony Danza was the Master of Ceremonies. Former Chief of Police



Officer Jude Bella, Medal of Valor recipient, with Mayor Richard Riordan and Detective-III Barbara Bella.

**Daryl F. Gates**, always a welcome visitor, also attended the ceremonies. One of many officers recognized for their brave acts was Officer **Jude Bella**, the son of our Det. **Barbara Bella**. Jude was shot several times and injured when he assisted other officers with the rescue of a Glendale detective that was murdered by a wanted felon in the northwest San Fernando Valley. Congratulations to Jude Bella on being recognized for his bravery at such a personal cost.

## Double BAD Retirement Celebration

On Sept. 10, 1999, the BAD family and close friends celebrated the well attended retirement luncheon of two detectives, **William "Billy" Sumpter** and **Steve Kolb** at the rock garden of the Los Angeles Police Academy. Despite having to pause between shooting relays, two of BAD's detectives, **Keith Jackson** and **Pete Wilson** did a great job as emcees of the retirement event. Having worked with both of these detectives, I can say that they will be missed. We wish Billy and Steve the best into their retirement years.

## William "Billy" Sumpter

On July 17, 1999, after over 30 years of professional dedicated service, Det.-I William "Billy" Sumpter, #15010, re-

tired from the Los Angeles Police Department.

Billy was born on Sept. 16, 1942, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Billy grew up in different areas of the United States and even attended high school in Porterville, California. Billy joined the United States Army and served for two years in Germany as a military policeman. This assignment sparked his interest in his future career. Billy fulfilled his commitment with Uncle Sam as a reservist in the Army.

On March 24, 1969, Billy entered the Los Angeles Police Department Academy as a recruit officer. Upon graduation, Billy was assigned to patrol duties at Rampart Division. Billy was successful in his assignment and adapted readily to his new career. On January 1, 1971, Billy was promoted to Policeman III. This was with only two years of experience.

In February of 1972, Billy transferred to the Devonshire Division, which is located in the very northwestern corner of the city. Billy continued to do an outstanding job in his field activities, garnering numerous commendations for his exploits.

On December 21, 1974, Billy gave a demonstration of true heroism. Billy, along with other Devonshire Area patrol units observed and responded to a residential fire in the Granada Hills area of the San Fernando Valley. When Sumpter arrived with his fellow officers, they were confronted by a single-family residence almost totally engulfed in flames.

The south portion of the structure's roof was openly ablaze. The fire department was requested and the officers observed a witness near the front door on the lawn. The witness indicated that there were people trapped in the residence. The officers split up in an effort to find a way into the blazing residence. Sumpter attempted entry into the smoke-filled house through a rear door, but was driven back by heat and choking smoke. He then went to the northeast corner of the house and with two other officers gained entry to the residence. At first the extreme heat and smoke drove Sumpter out of the house again. But with heroic persistence he again re-entered the residence. On his hands and knees Sumpter began searching the house for the trapped victims. Sumpter then heard the other officer calling for help and rapidly crawled towards the area from which the call came. The other officer had located the two residents and needed assistance to save their lives. Sumpter and the other two officers dragged the listless bodies of the two victims through the fiery inferno and successfully evacuated them from the doomed structure.

After having completed the successful rescue, Sumpter re-entered the blazing structure to search for additional victims. Ultimately, the heat, smoke and flames forced his final retreat and he had to abandon any further rescue attempts of

the third victim. Sumpter was treated and placed off-duty for smoke inhalation and exhaustion. Sumpter was ultimately awarded the Police Department's highest award for his bravery, the Medal of Valor.

Sumpter's heroic exploits do not end with the fire in which he saved two lives. On February 28, 1980, Sumpter and his partner were confronted by a mentally ill female armed with a large knife. Using good police tactics and verbal persuasion, Sumpter and his partner were able to gain a position of advantage and disarm the knife-wielding mental patient without harm to either officers or the suspect.

In November, 1989, Billy was promoted to Detective and transferred to Wilshire Division in the Central Los Angeles area. With his prior expertise from working detectives he was assigned to work juvenile, crimes against persons and auto theft investigative assignments.

Later Sumpter transferred to Foothill Detectives and worked robbery and auto theft. In late 1995, Billy transferred to Burglary-Auto Theft Division and was selected to work the Taskforce for Regional Autotheft Prevention, also known as TRAP.

Billy is also involved in his community. Billy was the Vice-President and coach for the Simi Valley Youth Soccer League. Billy has also maintained a high



William "Billy" Sumpter, wife Virginia and their children.

level of personal physical fitness, enjoys camping, and completed a hiking trip with his son to the top of Mt. Whitney's 14,000-foot peak. Billy has been married to his wife, Virginia, for 38 years and has two grown children, William, Jr., 30 years old, and Kimberly, 28 years old. Billy is a longtime resident of Simi Valley, and now that he is retired Billy will probably join his wife in her pool building business.

## Det. Steve Kolb

On Sept. 11, 1999, after 25 years of outstanding professional police service, Det.-II Steven V. Kolb, #21030, retired from the Los Angeles Police Department.



Detective Keith Jackson (BAD Delegate) and retiring Detective Steve Kolb.

Steve was born on Feb. 4, 1952, in Berkeley, Calif. He spent time in Seattle, Washington before settling in Southern California. Steve attended and graduated from Taft High School in Woodland Hills. Steve later attended Pierce Community College and transferred to Los Angeles Valley College, where he obtained his degree in Ad-

ministration of Justice. Steve also attended California State University at Northridge.

On Sept. 3, 1974, Steve entered the Los Angeles Police Department Academy as a recruit officer. Upon successfully graduating from his training, Steve was assigned to patrol duties at Van Nuys Division. In August, 1976, wishing to expand his field experience, Steve requested a transfer to Wilshire Division. Steve started to accumulate numerous commendations for his outstanding police work in the field. In May, 1978, Steve transferred to West Valley Division to further expand his experience. Steve received a commendation for his work in the capture of a suspect that fired shots at a California Highway Patrol Officer. In Sept. of 1980, Steve transferred to West Los Angeles Division where he was assigned to the Crime Repression Unit (CRU) and received many commendations for his effectiveness in reducing crime in the West L.A. area.

In March of 1984, Steve returned to West Valley Division and was promoted to Police Officer III. Steve worked the Special Problems Unit (SPU), the Hype Car, and completed a loan to ASTRO as a helicopter observer. In January of 1990, Steve deservedly received an assignment to detectives. While in detectives, Steve

worked a variety of assignments, starting off in juvenile and ending up in homicide. Steve received rave reviews for his work in detectives.

In October, 1991, Steve was promoted to Detective and transferred to Wilshire Detectives and worked assignments in Burglary, Crimes Against Persons and Robbery. Steve was commended by his commanding officer for his work during the 1992 Los Angeles Riots.

In December of 1993, Steve transferred to Burglary-Auto Theft Division, Taskforce for Regional Autotheft Prevention (TRAP). Steve worked a variety of "chop shop" type cases and was known for cracking a big case of stolen vehicles exported to China. Steve moved over to the Commercial Auto Theft Section (CATS) and worked primarily on construction equipment thefts. In October, Steve was promoted to Det.-II and remained in BAD CATS.

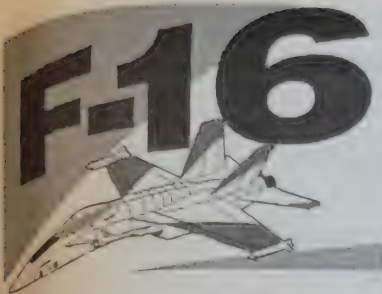
Although close to retirement, he stayed very involved up to his last days, recovering several hundred thousands of dollars worth of equipment just before retiring.

Steve and his wife, Maureen, and their two daughters moved to Idaho where he plans to build a home on property that he owns in the Coeur d'Alene area.

## Birthday Celebrations

Happy birthday wishes go out to the following BAD people: **Dan Schultz** (10/3), **Don Hrycyk** (10/9), **Germain Vitacion** (10/11), **Steve Howe** (10/21), **Mike Perez** (10/24), **Armando Romero** (10/29), **Tom Mann** (10/30), **Verne King** (10/31), **John Byun** (11/10), **Susie Gonzales** (11/11), **Louis Cabrera** (11/15), **Richard Householder** (11/19), **Bruce Oakley** (11/21), and **Luke Magee** (11/23).





by Julian Almaraz  
Foothill Station

On Sept. 22, 1999, at 1130 hours, P-3 Officer **Trask**, #31533, and his partner, P-2 Officer **Jester**, #33399, working 16A97 day watch, were asked by the watch commander to check a neighborhood complaint for a suspicious smell at 8641 Glenoaks Blvd. in the city of Sun Valley. Officer Trask was able to obtain a consent to search from the owner of the residence to locate the chemical smell which was coming from his home. Officers **McGarrity**, #33166, and **Loneragan**, #31304, responded to assist in the search of the location.

Once the officers entered the location they observed a suspicious looking tan and clear crystallized powder in the bathroom along with phosphorous wash and methamphetamine pipes. It was apparent from the glassware and chemicals that a "wash" operation was

age to complete a full workday. A little history about this officer: She has been on the job for 14 years. In 1985 she was exposed to a chemical fire in the Foothill Division, Sun Valley Area, which caused her to have internal medical problems. After a short time off from work she returned to work with some pain, but never complained. She continued to work her patrol duties, always having a high recap in all areas. With all of her hard work and outstanding productivity in patrol, she was promoted to the Area Vice Unit. While working the Foothill Area Vice Unit she worked the ABC locations and bookmakers. During one of her investigations at a Pacoima bar, she was involved in a physical altercation with an intoxicated male Hispanic. It took the entire six-man unit to arrest this suspect. During the fight, this officer injured her back, causing damage to her spine. Her injuries were so severe that she needed surgery to correct the damage. After two years off from work, she returned to a light-duty position in the Area Office. She continues to work with a lot of pain to her back and lungs, but never complains. She believes in the old "8 hours for 8 hours." She can be seen at work every day with a smile.

Well, the officer I am talking about is **Jeannie "Weenie" (horse sound) Posner**. Jeannie obtained this nickname due to her love of animals, especially



Det. F. Bishop, Capt. D. Singh, Ofcr. K. Foster, Ephrat Foster, Lt. R. Papke, Det. P. Conrad, Ofcr. K. Kukla.

taking place changing standard meth to crystal meth, its most potent analog. The officers also discovered a kitty litter box, which was used to filter out the smell of the chemicals. Officers also found a locked child's bedroom, which was opened and revealed a full blown clandestine meth manufacturing laboratory. The primary suspect claimed sole ownership of the items and was arrested for possession of methamphetamine. The officers also discovered the suspect was married and had three children residing in the residence at all times during the lab operations. Both parents were arrested and booked for manufacturing, possession and possession for sales of meth with an additional filing for child endangering. All officers are commended for their attention to duty, professionalism, and investigation skills. Keep up the good work!

#### Team Player

This month's article is about having work ethics, pride, integrity, and cour-

horses. While working patrol she adopted all her cats and dogs from the streets of Pacoima. She has also saved hundreds of cats and dogs by finding them good homes. Before Jeannie had to stop riding her horses, she would help other officers find quality horses for their families.

Jeannie was also involved in the station fund-raisers, organizing potlucks and barbecues. She was also involved in the Baker to Vegas Run picnics and holiday parties. Jeannie always had a big heart for all the officers at Foothill, always having an ear to listen and a simple solution to solve the problem. She always has a smile, a positive attitude, and loves her job. Jeannie would find ways to buy tickets to all musical concerts, the National Final Rodeo, and theater plays for all of the officers at the station. Every division has an officer like this, and without them we would be handicapped. "Thank you, Jeannie, for your dedication and attention to duty."



by Susan Miller  
Rampart Division

Hello all, this is your brand new friendly neighborhood divisional reporter. I am taking over the column from **George Brietigam**. I have to apologize for the lack of a column these past months, Rampart has a been a busy place. Present controversy aside, there is a lot of great police work going on in our little corner of the world. However, as I type this I am home with the flu for the fifth day in a row and lacking the reports I had so carefully set aside. That being the case, this is going to be mostly a clean-up column with respect to all of our comings and goings.

#### For D-P 8

*Incoming:* P-3 **R. Brown**, D-3 **C. Crispin**, P-3 **A. Rodriguez**.

*Outgoing:* Sgt. **B. Heim**, P-3 **Katsumata**, P-2 **W. Sexton**.

#### For D-P 9

*Incoming:* P-1 **Adamson**, Sgt. **Britt Nickerson**, P-1 **R. Cardenas**, P-1 **G. Chamberlain**, P-1 **K. Coles**, Specialist **C. Green**, Sgt. **E. Holder**, P-3 **Maria Perez**, P-1 **A. Silkey**, P-3 **P. Tatle**, Capt. **1 Kevin McCarthy**. Capt. McCarthy had an interesting first month at Rampart. He was the acting C/O while Capt. **Hansohn** was on vacation. I think the final totals for the month were nine homicides and one OIS. What could we say but "Welcome to Rampart!"

#### Promotion

I would like to congratulate Sgt.-I **Mark Aragon**, #23821, as Foothill Area's new Sergeant II on morning watch. Sgt. Aragon is one of my old partners from the late '80s. He has integrity, is proactive, and a great leader. He is currently working Foothill Area's Operations Support Division (Detectives) as the Officer-In-Charge of the Unsolved Homicide Unit. For the last 12 months his unit has solved 20 murders. He teaches teamwork, motivation and pushes all officers to promote. Aragon is also an old Marine, who has suffered some hard times in the past. He uses his Marine training to "overcome and adapt." My friend, you have worked hard your entire career, and you have earned a well-deserved promotion.

#### Medal of Valor

Officer **Kevin Foster** received the Medal of Valor for an incident in 1997. This gala presentation was a tribute to the commitment to duty demonstrated

*Outgoing:* Sgt. **Pat Barron**, Sgt. **Duncan**, Lt. **Jeff Green**, Sgt. **Leo Kerchenske**, P-2 **M. Kiley**, P-2 **Frank Limonchelli**, P-3 **Roger Perez**, Capt. **1 W. Schick**, P-3+1 **Jeff Stewart**, P-3 **Nanette Toosbuy**. We lost some great people on that transfer. You all will be missed.

#### For D-P 10

*Incoming:* P-2 **T. Ayala**, P-2 **M. Baez**, P-2 **S. Beaty**, P-2 **M. Belli**, P-2 **C. Burns**, P-2 **L. Chiasson**, Sgt. **Delgadillo**, Sgt. **L. Farrell**, P-2 **R. Guyer**, P-2 **M. O'Connor**, P-2 **C. Razo**, P-2 **T. Taggart**, P-2 **J. Young**.

*Outgoing:* Clerk Typist **M. Cooley**, P-2 **L. Kolbe**, P-2 **Dan Lujan**, D-1 **E. Munoz**. Dan, we're going to miss you.

Congrats to **Todd "TC" Cataldi** on his recent marriage. First P-3 and now this, TC. You are going to be so respectable we won't know you.

Sgt. **Derek O'Donnell** has a new baby boy. Sean and his mom are home doing fine. Derek is expected to recover. **Melissa Munguia** has a new baby boy, but morning watch is refusing to release a name.

Happy birthday to **Martha "Mouse" Casteneda**. Congratulations to both **Martha** and **Imelda Nuno-Lopez** on their success with the Senior Clerk Typist exam.

**Nikki Hoar** is retiring on Oct. 14th. We have no idea who will run the division. We begged her and begged her to stay, but apparently **Jack Hoar** (who retired this time last year) thinks their dogs need a full-time mom. The good news is they are hoping to move back east, so we will all have a place to stay when we take our long vacations.

Sgt. **Rich Dresser** and P-2 **Bob Arelano** both pulled the pin recently. They went back up to the Academy gym to say goodbye, standing at the black line where it all began so long ago. We at Rampart wish them both the best of luck in whatever they decide to do next.

by Officer Foster on the night of May 27, 1997. Kevin responded to a barricaded suspect who had seriously wounded a Glendale detective. Kevin, in concert with other officers, made entry into a darkened warehouse in order to retrieve the wounded detective. During the rescue attempt, Kevin sustained several gunshot wounds from the suspect's barricaded position. Officer Kevin Foster's courage, bravery, and presence of mind embody the finest tradition of the Los Angeles Police Department. Congratulations, Kevin!

#### Detective Say Goodbye

Foothill Area Detectives say a fond farewell to a team player and outstanding detective. After 28 years of dedicated service for the Los Angeles Police Department, the last 11 years at Foothill Area, we tip our hats to Det. **Gene Peterson**. During his tour of duty at Foothill, Gene performed at numerous positions always with integrity and a willingness to assist anyone at any time on a variety of endeavors.

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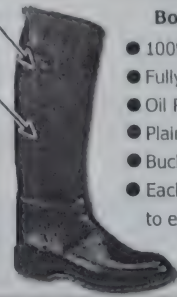
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# SPORTS BEAT

Sports Beat is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. For information about submissions to Sports Beat, please call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext 800.

## 45th Annual Sports Awards Dinner to be Held Friday, November 19

by Lew Snow

Can it be? Is the Year 2000 less than eight weeks away? What better way to start off your millennium celebrations than by attending the upcoming 45th Annual Sports Awards Dinner at the Elysian Park Academy Gym on Friday, November 19.

If this year's version of the long-running LAPD chestnut—first held in the era of six digit phone numbers, Hollywood Stars v. Los Angeles Angels games at Gilmore Park, streetcars running down Broadway, and UCLA basketball games at Pan Pacific Auditorium—is anything like last year's smash (headlined by the comedy antics of KNBC's Fred Roggin), it will definitely be an evening *not* to be missed!

While final touches were still being organized at our press deadline, we can confirm that Kickboxing champion Benny "the Jet" Uriquidez and world-renown author (and retired cop) Joseph Wambaugh (*The Onion Field*, *The*

*New Centurions*, *The Blue Knight*) will be among the celebrity guests at the evening-long tribute to the last century of LAPD history. Pictures, badge and uniform displays, and video clips will show us where we've been as we celebrate looking forward to a new century.

The evening begins at 1700 with a free-flowing Attitude Adjustment Hour followed at 1800 by a sumptuous buffet feast. Entertainment and presentation of awards will start at 1900. This year trophies will be given to the top LAPD teams in all Baker to Vegas categories. In addition, individual members of all Intradepartmental League and Tournament champions who attend the dinner will receive LAPRAAC gym bags.

Tickets (\$20 per person) are available from the Athletic Director's Office, through your unit's LAPRAAC rep, or by calling Jeannemarie Schwab at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218.



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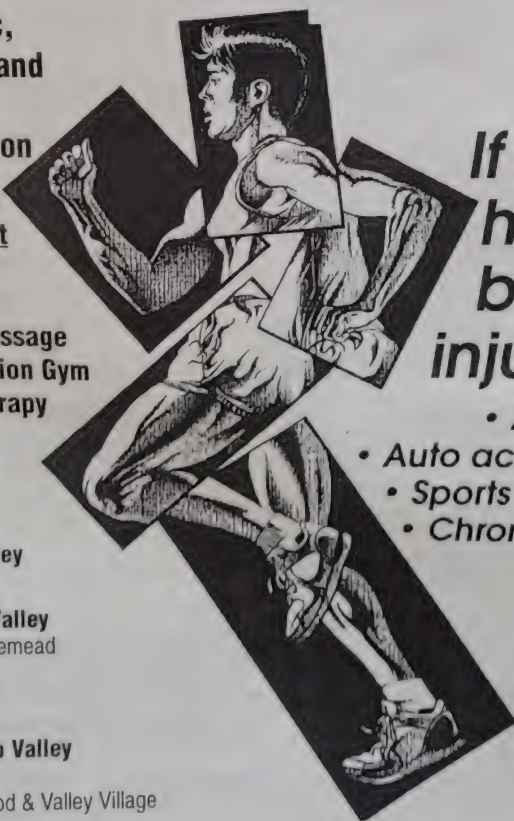
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Celebrating A Century of LAPD History  
Friday, November 19

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New This Year!

Individual members of intradepartmental League and Tournament champions who attend the dinner will receive LAPRAAC gym bags

Trophies to top LAPD teams in all Baker to Vegas categories

Tickets (\$20 per person) available from the Athletic Director's Office, your unit's LAPRAAC rep, or by calling Jeanne Schwab at (323) 221-5222 ext. 218

## LAPRAAC Sports Roundup

by Lew Snow

### Intradepartmental Flag Football Season Debuts With 11 Teams

The NFL may have thumbed its respective noses at Los Angeles, but if you're hungry for live football action, the LAPRAAC Intradepartmental Flag Football season is now underway.

Teams representing 11 stations (Devonshire, Foothill, Harbor, Hollywood, Metro, Newton, Rampart, 77th Street, Southeast, Southwest, West Valley) take to the field on Sundays through November 21st, aiming towards the LAPRAAC "Super Bowl" at the end of the season for the LAPD championship.

At our press deadline, location for the Sunday games, which start at 0900, had not been finalized, but was most likely to be in or adjacent to Northeast Area.

For up-to-date Flag Football game information, call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800, or Debbie Moeller at (323) 221-5222, ext. 219.

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### Year-End Golf Tourney Slated Friday, Dec. 3

Join the LAPRAAC Golf Club at California Country Club in Whittier on Friday, December 3, for the last tournament of the millennium. All department personnel, family members, friends and outside agencies are invited to participate in this day-long event, which begins at 0800 with a shotgun start. Cost is \$80 which includes green fees, cart, lunch, and prizes in numerous categories.

Openings for this once-in-a-lifetime tournament are limited. Contact Jeannemarie Schwab, Athletic Dept. Secretary, at (323) 221-5222, ext. 219, for reservations and additional information.

★ ★ ★

### Basketball Season to Open Monday, Nov. 8

The 1999-2000 Intradepartmental Basketball season will open for business on Monday, Nov. 8, with games at the Elysian Park Academy Gym. Game schedules were still being finalized at our press deadline but will culminate in February with the Capt. Al Nelson Tournament for the department championship in February. For updated information, call the Sports Beat Info Line at (323) 221-5222, ext. 800, or Debbie Moeller at (323) 221-5222, ext. 218.

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### Still Looking for Few Good Skiers

Just a reminder that the LAPD Ski Team is still on the lookout for skiers and snowboarders of *all* ability levels to join the team. Prospective new members are invited to the annual Ski Team party on Sunday, November 7, at the home of Mike and Ingrid Braun, to meet other team members and learn more about ski and snowboard racing. For more information, call Braun at (661) 250-8167 or (213) 485-2811. (If you prefer E-mail, Braun at lapdski@aol.com or via LAPD E-mail 27025. The Ski Team also has a Web site located at <http://users.kcyb.com/lapd>.)

★ ★ ★

### Happy Thanksgiving

On behalf of everyone on *The Sports Beat* staff at the Protective League and the Revolver Club, our best wishes for a happy Thanksgiving and upcoming holiday season. The end of the year marks a very special anniversary for *The Sports Beat*. More on that in the next issue.



## LAPD Motocross Team—

### LAPD Motocross Finds Gold, Silver and Bronze at the Final Rounds of the 1999 Fire & Police Mx Nationals!

by Rich Swisher

The final two rounds of the 10th annual Fire and Police Motocross nationals held at Glen Helen Raceway in San Ber-



Officer Rob Cosner of CTD airs it out while practicing for the FPMN.

nardino on Oct. 4th and 5th showed that our boys in blue have arrived as a true MX team. Since the very first FPMN, LAPD has had some serious throttle twistin' maniacs on the track, but now the team concept and some fresh meat is taking its toll on the regularly dominant fire department teams.

#### Round Three Oct. 4

A YZ400F mounted Officer Rob Cosner of CTD motored his way to second place in both motors of the 17 rider First Time Beginner race landing him a silver medal for the overall. In addition to the First Time Beginner class, Rob contended in the Veteran (ages 30-39) Beginner class and held off most of the 25-rider field for a third and a fourth place in the motors for a fourth overall. Rob, a first time racer, showed the Vet beginners that fitness and a wicked will to win is a hard-to-conquer combo.

Rich Swisher of ATD raced his CR250 in the Vet Beginner class finishing 10th and 8th in his motors for 9th overall. Not many people would be jumping for joy over a 9th overall, but this is Rich's first time keeping things on two wheels this year so he was really juiced.

Sgt. Ken Koch of Central Division blasted his Honda 250R quad to two silver medal finishes in both motors of the 35-99 Year Olds 2 Stroke Quad class. A contender for the 35-99 2 Stroke Quad class national championship, Ken fought hard to pass the first place racer but a much needed engine rebuilt put a cap on his passing power.

Foothill Division was well represented in round three by Officers Rob Plourde, Stuart Lomax and Scott Coffey. Plourde, aboard his KX250, battled to hard fought second and third place finishes for a bronze overall in the "Old Time Beginner +40 Years" class. Stuart Lomax and Scott Coffey, both riding new

CR250s, raced Transit Bus Division's Ryan Basaker on an RM250 and Sean Fiola on a CR125 in the 25 Rider Sportsman (ages 18-29) Beginner class. Ryan, Stuart and Scott played choo-choo train in the first moto finishing in that order in 9th, 10th, and 11th spots, and in the second moto it was Ryan and Scott linking up for 11th and 12th with Stuart in 16th. Sean had a tough time keeping up with the 250s but fought off enough of the quarter litre body beaters to finish 14th and 19th. The overalls were Ryan 8th, Scott 10th, Stuart 13th, and Sean 16th. Sean was another two class entrant and split his energy between this class and the Vet Beginners. Sean finished 20th and 19th for a 20th overall in this 25 Rider class.

The fastest guy on our team was again Paul Menchaca of Harbor Division.



Race Swisher copies dad's (Officer Rich Swisher of ATD) every move while relaxing between races.

Paul raced the hotly contested Sportsman Novice class on his screamin' YZ250 and posted 12th and 7th place moto finishes for 10th overall.

Retiree Bruce Hoover rode his KX250 in the Old Timer Novice class for guys 40-49 years old. Bruce is closer to 60 than he is to 40. He just wanted some tougher competition. Then again, maybe he just didn't want the trophy girl to know how old he really is. Bruce brought home a 7th overall via 6th and 7th place moto finishes which kept him out of the medals, that incidentally were handed out by a fireman with a big mustache. No big loss.

#### Round Four (Oct. 5th)

Rob Cosner again launched his booming YZ400F out of the gate and into the First Time Beginner class but this time he came up with snake eyes. Rob swept both motors and grabbed the gold in this class, but had a tough time in the first moto of his Yet Beginner class. Rob was shredding his way through his field when he got out of shape and tangled with a fence. The fence won and left him with a scar and



Foothill Division's Officer Scott Coffey launches off the finish line table top.

a hard-to-start 4 stroke. Rob ended up 15th and 4th for 9th overall.

Ken Koch Xeroxed round four and took home the silver for round four too. This, however, did give Ken the National Championship for the 35-99 2 Stroke Quad class. If you see Ken, congratulate him, and then remind him to rebuild that engine!

Rob Plourde and Rich Swisher joined Stuart Lomax in the Sportsman Beginner class for round 4. Rob Plourde grabbed the 15th spot in the 26 rider field but didn't race the second moto and ended up 20th overall. Stuart, without the choo-choo train he had for round three, snagged 12th and 14th for 13th overall. Rich learned some valuable lessons after round three about how important starting positions are and put these lessons to good use in round four. Rich shot to the front of the field like a cannon in

both motos, almost catching the hole-shot and finishing a consistent 4th, 4th for 2nd place silver overall.

Bruce Hoover, in the Old Timer Novice class, took 5th and 6th for 6th overall. Rob Plourde took 3rd and 4th place moto finishes in the Old Time Beginner class, setting himself just outside another medal in fourth overall.

All of these racers would like to extend special thanks to their pit crew members: Heather Cosner, Meredith Swisher, Race Swisher, Madalyn Cosner, Rose Cosner, Abe Rangel (CTD), Rhonda Romero, Rick Romero, and Andrew Romero.

Anyone interested in riding with, racing with, or hanging with the team, or anyone with any connections to possible sponsors for LAPD MX, please drop a line to Rich Swisher and get the 411. The LAPD Code-20 video crew came out during round four and shot a video to educate department personnel on this great stress-relieving sport/family activity. You can order this video for viewing at your division through your training coordinator or through community relations at PAB.

#### More Sports Beat on next page

## See Without Glasses!

Doctor McGrew would like to introduce you to one of his recent patients, Rebecca Griffiths, a teacher from Riverside, and let her tell you about Laser Vision Correction.

*"One of the best decisions I've ever made..."*

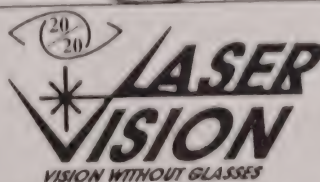


Since my Lasik surgery six months ago, I have been set free. I'm free from the hassle of contact lenses, free from glasses, free from dependence on corrective lenses. I no longer have to take off my glasses when I swim or shower. Since Lasik, I can see on my own. I'm free! The surgery went so quickly and it was completely painless. I knew that Dr. McGrew had more than 18 years of surgical experience, and that fact, combined with his soothing and encouraging words, gave me a great deal of confidence.

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## SPORTS BEAT

### THE TEN RING—Pistol Team Threepeats as National, World Champs

by Rick Bennett

After six months of shooting at local matches, the LAPD Pistol Team (Bob Barnes, Rick Bennett, Neil Goldberg, Lou Salseda, Don Tsunawaki, and Lisa Wernli) hit the road for Mississippi in late September to compete against 500 top law enforcement shooters from around the world at the National Police Shooting Championships.

The LAPD shooters not only would be defending their National and World team titles, but would be looking for their fifth

Republic. With Old Glory waving in the afternoon breeze we defeated all comers to become the 1999 World Champions.

I was honored to serve as Team Captain and can't begin to express how proud I am of our shooters, not only for their skills on the range but also their constant display of sportsmanship. None of this would have been possible without the support we received from Chief Bernie Parks and Capt. Rich Wemmer.

With the new millennium fast approaching, I would like to salute all LAPD Pistol Team members, from the first shooter through John Hurst to our



1999 National and World Champions—(from left) Don Tsunawaki, Lou Salseda, NRA Representative Ron Kirkland, Rick Bennett and Bob Barnes.

championship this decade. Mississippi Highway Patrol is the only other team to win this prestigious event during the 1990s.

The National Range in Jackson is something to behold—with 100 shooting positions it is over 100 yards wide—a real attention getter when all 100 slots are blasting away at the same time. The first four days consisted of individual matches with Retired LAPD Det. John Pride again rising to the top to claim his fourth individual National Championship.

Team competition began on day five as Neil Goldberg and Lisa Wernli traded their revolvers for binoculars to coach the foursome of Barnes, Bennett, Salseda and Tsunawaki. When the smoke cleared we had won the championship once again!

As National Champions it was time to represent our country against the rest of the world. We competed against teams from Germany, Canada, and the Czech

newest members. Keep shooting those X's. The National Police Shooting Championships began in 1962 and since that time the LAPD Pistol Team has won the Four Man Team title six times! My hat is off to all of you!

#### LAPD National Champion Teams

1985—Chris Kaufman, J.P. Nelson, John Pride, Fred Romaro

1992—Steve Estrada, John Pride, Lou Salseda, Bob Snedden

1994—Rick Bennett, Steve Estrada, John Pride, Lou Salseda

1997—Bob Barnes, Rick Bennett, Lou Salseda, Roger Rampton

1998—Bob Barnes, Rick Bennett, Lou Salseda, Don Tsunawaki

1999—Bob Barnes, Rick Bennett, Lou Salseda, Don Tsunawaki



## USA Rugby Seeking LAPD Officers

Opportunity to participate in 2002 Olympics in Sydney!  
(No Experience Necessary)

Los Angeles, Calif.—USA Rugby, the national governing body of Olympic Rugby in the United States is extending an invitation to all LAPD officers to consider playing rugby on the world famous Los Angeles Rugby Club.

All LAPD officers that have experience or are interested in learning to play rugby are invited to contact The Los Angeles Rugby Club immediately (310-LARUGBY).

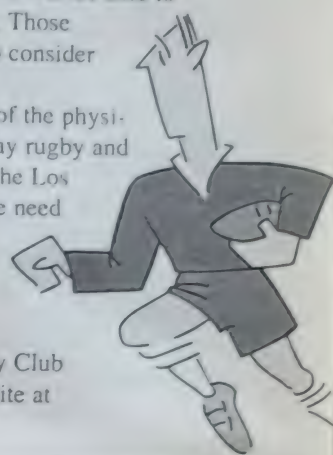
The International Olympic Committee has just announced that the sport of Rugby will become a medal sport in the 2002 Olympics which will be held in Sydney, Australia. As such, the United States must begin developing its national team known as the USA Eagles. Los Angeles will play a key and pivotal role in the development of players for our U.S. team in 2002 and beyond.

LAPD officers with prior football experience will be able to transfer their experience to the sport of rugby. Those without football experience are also invited to consider joining the Los Angeles Rugby Club.

Rugby is a team sport. Rugby provides all of the physical contact of football and more. Real men play rugby and it's for that reason USA Rugby has turned to the Los Angeles Police Department for new talent. We need some real men!

Team practices vary on week nights and weekends. Opportunities for domestic and international travel.

If interested, please call Los Angeles Rugby Club today, 310-LARUGBY or check out our Web site at [www.larugby.com](http://www.larugby.com).



For Information Regarding  
Joining the

### LAPD Centurion's Cheerleading Squad



Please Call Jill  
at (213) 713-8119  
or Sara at  
(213) 485-3285

### CENTURIONS TRY OUTS

PLEASE BRING A COPY OF YOUR POLICE PHOTO ID, FRONT AND BACK. COME IN WORK OUT GEAR, RUNNING SHOES, ETC.

RETURNING VETERANS, PLEASE BRING YOUR GEAR SO REGGIE CAN CHECK THE EQUIPMENT. ANY QUESTIONS CALL ANGIE AT (213) 485-3285.

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11-14-99: 0900

11-21-99: 0900

### SPORTS BEAT INFO LINE

(323) 221-5222, ext. 800  
(Note new area code due to 213 split)

Keep Up To Date on The Latest In LAPD Sports

Whether it's scheduling changes, newly announced events, or for updated scores, call the Sports Beat Info Line for the latest details. Athletic Director Tony Adler updates the message weekly, or more often, as events warrant.



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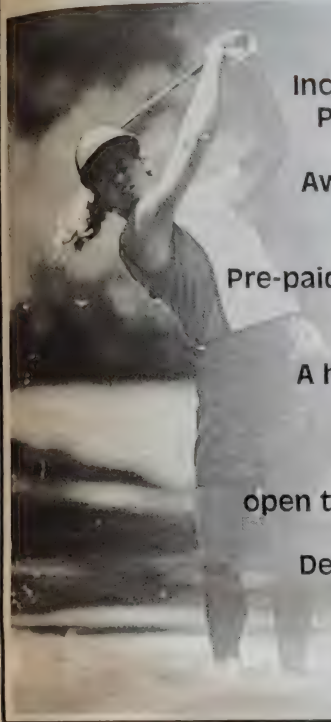
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## 4TH ANNUAL DETECTIVE SUPPORT DIVISION "1999 MORALE OPEN" GOLF TOURNAMENT

charity benefit for LAPD Officers and their families  
"Fun-Food & Fellowship"  
Scramble/ Best Ball format

November 15, 1999  
California Country Club  
1509 S. Workman Mill Road  
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Check-In: 6:30 A.M.  
Includes Free continental breakfast  
Putting Contest: 6:45 am - 7:45 am  
Shotgun Start: 8:00 am  
Awards Banquet & Raffle to follow:  
Approx. 2:00 pm  
Golf-Cart & Banquet - \$90.00  
Pre-paid foursome by (10-22-99) - \$340.00  
Banquet only - \$20.00

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Detective Larry Garret (213) 473-7468  
Detective Jack Cota (213) 473-7309

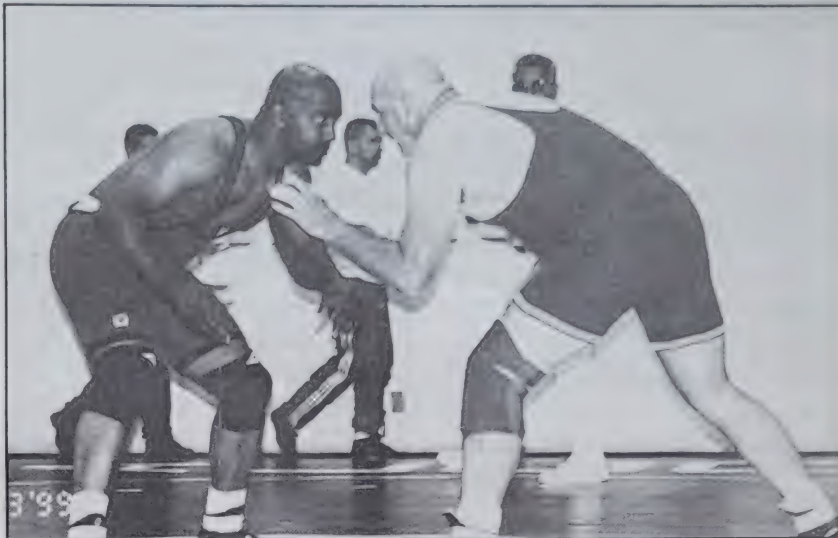
cut off date: November 8, 1999  
"First Come, First Served"

## LAPD Wrestlers Dominate California Police Summer Games

by Mike Smerdel ("The Matman")

No award was given at the recently passed California Summer Games for team performance in wrestling. If one was available to be presented it most assuredly would have been won by the

partment in Orange County (Placentia) was trying to put his agency on the map by attempting to hang with his opponent. Who was his opposite, you might ask? None other than Pacific Division's **Troy Collins**, who crushed the little guy, sent him back to Placentia with his tail be-



Gold Medal Winner—Troy Collins (left) faces down Placentia PD's version of Butterball Bean at the California Police Summer Games.

stunning performance by all members of the LAPD Wrestling Team.

There were so many participants from many well-known agencies (Highway Patrol and L.A. Sheriff's Department, to name just two) that I had never seen such a high caliber of participants at the police tournament. When the dust settled the wrestlers from LAPD scored more team points than any other department at the games.

One of the many highlights of this tough tournament was the Heavyweight finals. Some wrestler from a small de-

tween his legs, and came home with a beautiful gold medal. Other LAPD medal winners included **Andrew Taylor** (Central), **Guadalupe Ruiz** (Van Nuys), **Fernando Mora** (Pacific), **Kim Smerdel** (West L.A.) and **Michael Smerdel** (Southwest).

For more information about the LAPD Wrestling Team, contact Wrestling Coordinator Mike Smerdel at Southwest Mid-PM Watch (213-485-2582) or E-mail Serial 32220.

## FIGHT FOR LIFE BOXING EVENT



**City of Hope**

Friday, November 19, 1999, 6:30pm  
at the Grand Olympic Auditorium

### POLICE OFFICER

(Lateral or Academy Graduate)

City of Santa Rosa

Salary: \$4,162-\$5,059

Additional compensation paid for: Special Response Unit 3%; Crisis Negotiations Unit 3%; Hazardous Device Unit 3%; Environmental Crimes Unit 3%; Field Training Officer 2.5%; Motorcycle Bonus 2.5%; Accident Investigator 2.5%; Detective 5%; Bi-Lingual Pay (2 levels) 3% or 5%; POST incentive pay - Intermediate 4.5% and Advance 7% of monthly base salary; City paid 9% PERS; 4/10 work week; paid life insurance; and other excellent benefits. Qualified laterals may be eligible for appointment up to the 5th step in the salary range commensurate with experience, education, training, and POST certificates.

Special assignment opportunities include: Detective - Property Crimes, Sex Crime & Family Violence, Homicide, Robbery & Felony Assault, Gang Crime and School Resource, Career Criminal Apprehension & Investigative Support, Background Investigations; Neighborhood Enforcement Team; Accident Investigations; Motorcycle and Downtown Foot/Bicycle Patrol; and Narcotic and Auto Theft Task Forces.

Minimum qualifications: Currently enrolled in or completion of a CA Basic Academy within the last 2 years; possess, or eligible to possess, a CA POST Basic Certificate and currently, or within the past 12 months, employed for a minimum of 1 year as a California Peace Officer.

If you are interested in pursuing a career with a modern, progressive, mid-sized (166 sworn) police department located in the heart of the Sonoma County wine country, contact the City of Santa Rosa Human Resources Dept. at (707) 543-3060, or call Debbie Houser in the Police Dept. at (707) 543-3566, or the Recruiting Hotline (800) 675-6554. Applications may be obtained from the City of Santa Rosa Human Resources Dept., 100 Santa Rosa Ave., Santa Rosa, CA, 95404. **This is a continuous examination. The final filing date has not yet been established.**

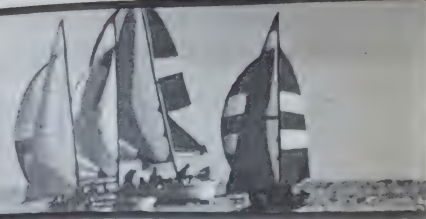
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# RETIREMENT NEWS



The Retirement News is a regular feature of *The Thin Blue Line*. Retirees may submit articles for publication. Deadline for submission is the 6th of the month for the following month's issue date.

## The Central Coast—Fuzz That Wuzz

by Dave Aikins

Greetings from all of us residing on or near the Central Coast. As you know, the weather throughout the state has been basically mild all year and we certainly enjoyed the benefits of it all. Fall is here and the year 2000 is close at hand. I see that the new year falls on a Friday night/Saturday morning, which will be convenient for a lot of party-goers. Hopefully, everyone will have a great time and enter the next millennium safely and in one piece. I don't think I'll be here for the next one. Probably just as well, as I have a tough enough time keeping up with my grandkids on the computer. The ongoing, changing technology is unbelievable. It is amazing how these kids whiz through all this technical stuff and my VCR is still blinking on 1200 hours. I recently took a computer class and discovered that it was full of seniors who had brand new computers and were trying desperately to communicate with their grown children and grandkids via E-mail. The world is changing rapidly and I guess I am a floundering dinosaur, but not yet extinct. At least in retirement you can do some of the things you always dreamed about, but maybe at a little slower pace. Reading a good book is still in vogue, I think.

Speaking of doing things, the Fuzz That Wuzz got together in September for their annual gift auction at Rosa's Restaurant in Pismo Beach. The event is always a lot of fun in addition to bringing in some monetary resources for our annual Christmas party in December. In addition to those attending and bringing gifts to be auctioned off, many members who were unable to at-

tend sent donations to help defray expenses. Everyone's efforts were greatly appreciated.

As usual, Brian & Cathy Galbraith, Sam & Paulette Lopez and Tom & Dorie Zwinger planned the event going and put in a great deal of effort to make it happen. They make a super team. Those in attendance included: Frank & Flo Beeson, John Bradbury & Josanna Jackson, Freeman & Nellie Calvert, Jack Carter & Florence Evans, George & Susan Courtney, Bob & Marilyn Darnell, Guy & Jane Hogue, John & Frances Krasts, Gerd & Nancy Konieczny, Charles & Priscilla La Fitte, Bob & Joanne McSeveney, Paul & Stella Mattson, and Robert & Aileen Rackerby.

Seen carting off several nice gifts were Joe & Jean Ramey, Gil Rivera, Lucy Salls, Daniel Schaeffer, Charles Snyder, Allen Schlocker & Sammy McHenry, Warren Sizoo, Ken & Wanda Stiffler, Fred & Sharline Tuggey, and Bob & Carole Velek. Bob & Everett Caples also dropped by to say hello to some old friends.

I am told that it was a super event as yours truly and wife, Judy Aikins were unable to attend due to severe suffering from a large (massive) exposure to poison oak. That's another story. The awesome get-well card created by Paulette Lopez and sent to us on behalf of the Fuzz Group made the scratching and itching a little easier to handle. Thanks guys, and we'll see you all at our Christmas party on December 16th at the Madonna Inn, San Luis Obispo.

Catch us at wuzzlapd@aol.com. KMA



Sgt. Rich Dresser enjoying his retirement party with friends.



Det. Michael Keller, Lt. Skip Tucker and Det. Craig Peters enjoying their retirement party.

## Valley Retired Blues

by Clinton O. Erickson

Our next luncheon meeting will be on November 17, 1999, at "The LAMP-LIGHTER" Restaurant located on the corner of DeSoto Ave. and Nordhoff St. There is no set start time so you may arrive anytime after 10:30 a.m. We meet in the room adjacent to the bar lounge. A special lunch menu is available.

We had 26 at the Sept. 15, 1999, luncheon. The attendees were John Becker (5059), Mildred Davis, Ted Debs (6808), Gene Dillon (3411), Clinton (5608) and Mary Erickson, Bill Feddersen (4823), Robert Gibson (4585), Fred Hall (4987), Mel Harner (4501), Carl Hegge (6234), Glen Kailey (3503), John Kepke (4603), Tom Lindholm (4734), Bob Mays (3747), Boris Meneghelli (3522), Lou Netza (7655), Paul Nicholas (4047), Jake Orbus (5407), Ray Palaszewski (6934), Bob Reeves (6874), Dale Rickards (3593), Duane Ryburn (3981), Dustin Splaine (7183), Stu Stremsterfer (4394), and Jim Trax (6185). Mildred Davis, Mary Erickson, and Fred Hall had not attended for some time and it was good to see them.

Bob and Frances Davidson have attended our luncheons over the last sev-

eral years. Bob died September 23rd. Bob had been ill off and on for the last two or three years from several ailments including complications of diabetes. A memorial service was held September 29th at the First Baptist Church in Woodland Hills where Bob and Frances were charter members. The impressive service was attended by many friends and relatives including several of the Retired Blues. We will miss Bob's coming to the lunches at Lamplighters.

Ben and Joyce Reineke have been unable to attend our lunches since May as Joyce has been in the hospital for treatment of cancer and heart problems. They are also unable to attend the monthly Retired Fire and Police Association meetings. I am sure they would appreciate a card or phone call.

The December column will include details of those attending our annual BBQ at Dale Rickard's ranch in Malibu. I am still looking for the people who have attended either the BBQ or The Lamplighter's luncheons that have E-mail addresses. Send me a short note at my address: clintsr@pacbell.net.

If you need any information about meetings (always the third Wednesday of each month) or phone numbers of our luncheon attendees, call me (Erickson) at 818-340-2430.

## Dates to Remember

### November

Nov. 3	Retired Fire & Police Association Meeting	1000	
Nov. 8	LAPPL Golf Tournament Porter Valley C.C.	0900	
Nov. 11	S.A.B.L.A.	1130	1200
Nov. 12	John R. Mattingly	1100	1200
Nov. 15	DSD Golf Tournament	0630	
Nov. 17	Valley Retired Blues	1030	1200
Nov. 17	I.P.A. Luncheon	1200	
Nov. 17	Fred Miller	1700	1800
Nov. 19	LAPRAAC Sports Awards Banquet	1700	1800
Nov. 19	Fight For Life Boxing Event	1830	

### December

Dec. 1	Chris West & Kevin Giberson	1730	1830
Dec. 2	RHD Christmas Party (all personnel)	1700	
Dec. 5	Sierra Nevada Retired Blue Line Christmas Dinner	1830	1900
Dec. 11	U.S.D. Holiday Party		
Dec. 12	LAWPOA Holiday Tea	1300	
Dec. 12	Retired Fire & Police Association Christmas Party	1300	
Dec. 16	S.A.B.L.A. Christmas Luncheon		
Dec. 16	Central Coast Fuzz Christmas Party		
Dec. 17	RHD Christmas Party (divisional)		

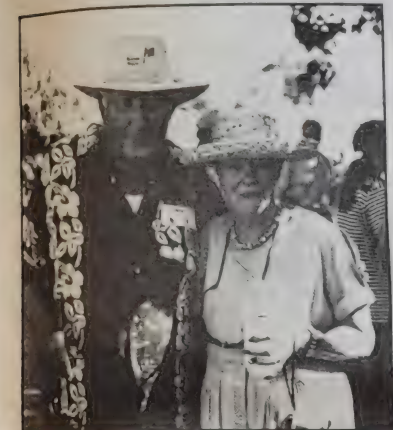


# SABLA— Sacramento Area Blue Line Association

by Bernie Remas

We don't know if you're busy, but things have been busy here in Sacramento for the past few months! And if that wasn't enough, here we are, looking straight ahead to the major holidays of the year—Thanksgiving and Christmas! My favorite time of the year! You too?

First my "thanks" to **Roy Kerton** for filling in for me last month while Judy and I were on vacation in Europe. The trip was great fun, and I'm glad we went while both of us are still "young!" If you wait until you're old, it's "tough" getting in and out of those buses, climbing stairs, and then the worst part—getting those suitcases outside your hotel room door by 0630 hours!! That's when the goin' gets tough!! So a word of warning to you



Dick and Betty King—Betty changed to water.

young people. Go when you're young!

Many of you remember **Dick King**. Well he showed up here during August and **Hoy Key** or somebody made him a new SABLA member! Just to show how much we appreciated him joining, we chose him to be the guest speaker for our



(Left to right): Carl Kuehn, Charlie Long and Bill Lovold. "C'mon Bernie. Let's beat these youngsters!"

September SABLA luncheon! I'm told he loved it. I met Dick recently down south in Del Webb's Sun City in Palm Desert. We have a mutual friend, **Ed Cull**, and Ed had a cocktail party at his home. Well, it's only a couple 100 miles, so Judy and I attended! This summer, Dick and his wife have been staying in summer in Lodi. Something about a winery or wine grapes. Something like that!

More news from the September luncheon. Another surprise—Former Asst. Chief **Lou Sporrer** and his wife **Norma** came down from the mountains in Lake Tahoe for a visit. They are staying up in the country for the summer. I'm told Lou was the C.O. of the Office of Operations when he retired in June, 1979, after doing 30 years! Lou, been getting that "check" every month for over 20 years? Hope you two keep it going for another 20!

Another LAPDer has been getting those checks even longer! Since 1967! Thirty-two years! **James Byrd**, #5322, started with LAPD in 1946 and retired in 1967. Jim joined SABLA as a member,

so we're going to see him around regularly. How about you? Want to join? Fifteen dollars a year!

Before I move on, you should be aware that a name from my distant past was here during the summer, and we hope he comes back. **Art Sjoquist** retired as the C.O. of Foothill Division in 1988. But this is a busy man. He is also known as the Department's Historian, and explained his role with the Los Angeles Police Historical Society working on the old Highland Park Station. After that's finished, he'll be working on Phase 2, which is the development and construction of a world-class, high-tech, interactive police learning/entertainment center! This will be a unique 8,000 square foot facility that will not only showcase the Department's fascinating history, but also provide the public a real appreciation of a police officer's job! This I gotta see! Art offered to return and show us a slide presentation of this project! Make sure you don't miss it. Don't know when yet. Why not come to all the SABLA luncheons. That way you won't miss Art's "dog & pony show."

Speaking of the holidays and celebrating and gift-giving and celebrating and mailing my gift, the annual SABLA Christmas luncheon is set this year for Thursday, December 16, 1999. This is when we dress up a little bit and bring our best gal for a great Christmas celebration! For the past few years we have had a festive luncheon at Del Webb's in Roseville. Everything is decorated for the holiday season, and guess what? We're going back! It will be in the same place again this year. In the past, they have given us a nice, big banquet room, with a great P.A. system, some pretty good food, and plenty of it for us to enjoy. We've managed to have some gifts on hand for everyone, and we're working on that again this year. And we always look

good too! So mark those calendars now. Please! We can celebrate the Christmas season together—if just for a short time.

When League President **Ted Hunt** was here last summer, he told us that the League spends approximately \$80,000 a year to mail the *Blue Line* to 8,000 members, or \$10 a year for each of us, or a little less than \$1 a month! The Post Office does not buy the argument that retired officers are "paid up" members of the League. The Post Office is going to charge the League more money for mailing the *Blue Line* to all of us retirees. I don't have any new updates on this issue, but we're pursuing more information for you. Contact the League for more, if you need it sooner.

Now let's get to the BIG September SABLA picnic at the Kiser's Ranch in Sonoma. If you missed it, and have never been to one, you might be in BIG trouble. A little bird told me that SABLA may not have the BBQ at Kiser's next year. Just a rumor for now. Hoy Key showed an attendance of 122! WOW! This includes 20 members of IPA Region #41! Now that **Ron Kiser** has joined Hoy Key,

# Retirement Corner

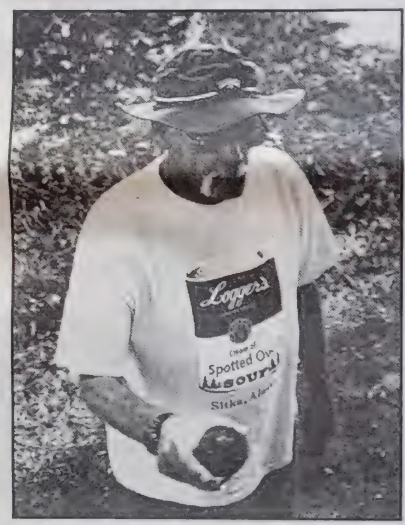
November, 1999

Rank/Name/Serial No./Last Assigned To	#Years
D-II Carl C. Buettner 12978 Narcotics	32
SGT-II Ronald L. Shoop 13444 Hollenbeck	32
P-III David Tulk 13462 Devonshire	32
P-III John L. Olsen 14320 Devonshire	30
D-III Michael V. Vaughn 14590 Detective Support Div.	30
Sgt-II William "Bill" Florez 15612 Valley Bureau	30
D-II Robert B. Hart 15839 West Valley	28
D-II Gene E. Peterson 16829 Foothill	28
P-III+1 George Suviate 16846 Central Traffic Div.	28
P-III Phillip A. Rodriguez 16924 Northeast	28
P-III+1 James P. Grennan 17036 Central Traffic Div.	28
D-II John I. Cameron 17115 Devonshire	27
Comm-I Bruce E. Hagerty 17175 Uniform Support Grp.	27
Lt-II Dave Hepburn 17346 LAPPL	27
D-III James M. Becker 17425 Burglary Auto-Theft Div.	27
P-II+2 Richard F. Zielinski 20182 Valley Traffic Div.	25
P-II+2 Robert E. Leahy 20294 Valley Traffic Div.	26
D-III Mitchell B. Robins 20731 Van Nuys	25
Lt-II Michael B. Schaffer 20734 Narcotics	25
D-III Patrick J. Green 21022 Bunco Forgery Div.	24

20 of L.A.'s finest for a total of 559 years of service.

**Chuck Ward** and others in IPA, they were invited to join with us! We all had a great time!

This year was a banner year and some new faces were seen at the BBQ. Playing



Alex Shearer showing us how to hold a glass of wine!

horseshoes was none other than **Merrill Duncan**, all the way from Park City, Utah (see photo). After LAPD and a couple of Chief's jobs, he looks like he can do another 20 or more! And speaking of horseshoes, my team of **Charlie Long** and myself were on the verge of unseating the Kiser dominance of this game.

Charlie and I took **Carl Kuehn** and **Bill Lovold** rather handily. But while waiting for the next match, my partner, Charlie, and wife **Carmen**, had to leave with **Hal & Johnene White** and **Hank & Lee Seret** on White's bus to Roseville's Sun City. Charlie and I had to forfeit! I wonder how many other times the senior Kiser has won the championship through forfeit, because it was too late in the day and after dark? Would he do that? Just wondering! I'll have more news about the horseshoes tournament in the next *Blue Line*.

I'm told that **Bob Rogers** and **Nancy Reed** had a great time at the Friday night wine tasting at the festival in Sonoma. Could that be the reason they were so late at the BBQ?

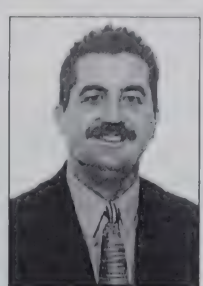
I'll have more news and names from the SABLA BBQ in next month's *Blue Line*. So stay tuned!

SABLA always meets on the second Thursday of the month. We are continuing to stay at the Palomino Restaurant at Watt and El Camino, in Sacramento. This month it will be Thursday, November 11, 1999. Story telling time is 1130, with lunch at 1200, and any guest speaker starts at 1230. Hangin' around after is OK!

If you can't make it to one of our monthly luncheons, write to us at P.O. Box 60353, Sacramento, CA 95860-0353.

Be good to each other out there. We need and love each and every one of you.

More Retirement News on next page



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# Old Blue Running Team

by Neil Parker

## A Goal Accomplished

Friday, September 17th was the day that four judicial nominees recommended by former Governor Pete Wilson were sworn in to take their seats on the bench as judges of the Los Angeles Municipal Court District. And a proper and fitting ceremony it was. Judge Brad Klein, a great emcee, gave a humorous, brief biography of each new judge as well as presenting them and their families to the packed audience in the courtroom of Presiding Judge Veronica McBeth in Division 1 of the Los Angeles County Courthouse.

There were about 15 rows of seats in the courtroom, so figure out which rows that most of us coppers, as rightfully befits "old timers," plunked ourselves down in? All we needed were a couple of cigars and some "hot sheets" and it would almost have been, almost, not quite, but almost reminiscent of some good, good old days gone by. But, this too was a good day. A very good one as you'll see reading on.

Nevertheless, showing support and giving out a lot of silent attaboys with their prayers were numerous relatives, friends, neighbors and old partners as well as a large group of current and former members of Old Blue Running Team, a group of retired Los Angeles police officers and some of their spouses because one of our Old Blue teammates, in fact he was the 1998 team captain, was one of these four judges. Mel Sandvig is officially now recognized as the Honorable Melvin

Sandvig! Hooray for Mel! Can you imagine the myriad details of days of determined study, dedication, discipline and deprivation endured by these new judges and their families as they decided to reach for the stars, achieve their goals and secure a niche in the judicial system. It was a tough jour-

ney, Your Honor, but you did it. Speaking of tough journeys, Judge Klein, in his bio of Mel, mentioned (in case you didn't know) that Mel began his running career when he was about forty and after about fifteen years has completed about 76 marathons (26.2 miles each) as well as dozens of lesser mile events, and that doesn't count practice.

As he continued in his remarks, Judge Klein was also kind enough to hold his own "roll call" and mentioned the names of about 15 or so officers who persevered and changed from the dark blue law enforcement uniform to the respected black robes of the judiciary. Ahem, your honor, I would like to make a motion to amend your list of names to include "Red" Stromwall, Marty Hairabedian, Allen Stone, Jim Alfano, and quite a few other ex-LAPDers who have served throughout California and other locales in various judicial functions. And that's not counting many, perhaps dozens, of Dragnet era (thnx again, Jack Webb) guys and gals who opted to stay with private practice. Yes, I said girls. Who said that you can't be good looking and smart too? You said it, and you, and you, and you, and a few other partners, on a slow night when the radio was quiet and shakes were really hard to



Det. Mike Vaughn receives congratulations on his retirement from Directors Gary Morgan and Dennis P. Zine.

find, shared with each other about kids and house payments and bowling leagues and such as "I'll tell you, partner, my wife, I'm really proud of her. She takes care of the kids and the checkbook and (now a slight modest disclaimer) she ain't bad looking either." So you see it's a truism, a fact. I didn't invent it. I'm just reporting it. You do remember it, don't you? Wasn't it just yesterday? It oft times seems like it until I get an arthritic flare-up and the bowling ball seems to have grown to 40 pounds, but you know who is still keeping the checkbook right on the money and still ain't bad looking either.

Ex-LAPDer, Judge J. D. Smith performed the Enrobing Ceremony for Mel and then California Supreme Court Justice Joyce Kennard impressed eve-

ryone with her inspiring words on the justice system as she then swore in the four newest members of the LAMCD. I believe we were all quite awed. Amongst the LAPD family at court or at the neat reception at the Academy were Old Blue teammates Keith Allen, Thurston Bechtel, George Beck, Pat Dailey, Rudy DeLeon, Mike Dwyer (congrats on your "new" career change, Mike), Steve Gates, Jay Hernando, Mike and Marcia McKean, Chuck and Lynn McTaggart, John and Gloria Martin, Mike and Anne Melancon, Bill Osuna, Neil Parker, Dale Sprinkle and guest Ann Kelley.

Next Baker to Vegas practice is November 28, 8:00 a.m., rain or shine at Griffith Park. Call 949-455-1952 for more info.

The Los Angeles Police Department - Detective Support Division - announces a -

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honoring -

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SWOM, 2-69  
Patrol  
Det. Power  
SWDET, 01-12-76  
SWDET, 01-4-79  
DSD-CCS, 11-79  
CCS, 02-9-98  
Retired, 8-14-99

JOHN'S QUOTE:  
"GOT TO CALL THE 'HITMAN' FROM HENDERSON!"  
"MATHY, GET ME 'NUTTER BEER'! I'M BUSY WITH A DELTA KING 11 AND I'M LOST!"  
"I'M LOST! I'VE GONE TO LOCK FOR MYSELF. IF I RETURN BEFORE I GET BACK, PLEASE ASK ME TO WAIT!"

Circle 44 Matingly

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Wed. Nov. 17, 1999

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DINNER @ 1800

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N.Y. Patrol, 7-70  
Wish. Pol., 2-72  
Wish. Dets., 8-74  
Robbery, 8-74  
Burglary, 8-74  
Homicide, 8-74  
RHD-Homicide, 6-84  
Retired, 10-3-99  
29 YRS, 7 MOS, 15 DRS

JOHN'S QUOTE:  
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2 for 1 Retirement Dinner

honoring -

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**Mike "ROCK" Nichol**

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Friday, Jan. 14th 2000

@ San Antonio Winery  
737 Lamar St. Los Angeles  
1700 hrs Hors d'oeuvres  
Social Hour  
1800-2100 hrs. Dinner  
Free admissions

#13859

Cost:  
\$35.00 per person  
Includes lunch, tax, tip, gift

For tickets or info, contact:  
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Det. OLIVIA VANDERZANDEN (213) 485-2155

**A TWO-FER**

**LT. I CHRIS WEST, 21130**  
**&**  
**SGT. I KEVIN GIBERSON, 21521**  
**ARE RETIRING**

**JOIN THEM IN CELEBRATION**

Where: The Academy Lounge  
When: December 1, 1999 (Wed.)  
Cocktail Hour: 1730  
Dinner: 1830  
\$25.00 (includes dinner, tip, and gift)

FOR TICKET INFO, CONTACT:  
HARRY WINSTON  
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WTD @ 213-473-0215.

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**Sierra Nevada Retired Blue Line Association**

Dear Brothers in Blue,  
We in our retired association would like to invite you to our Christmas dinner.

WHEN: Sunday, December 5, 1999  
WHERE: Carson City Nugget Casino (upstairs)  
TIME: 6:30 p.m. (buffet at 7:00 p.m.)  
COST: \$14.25 per person

Please send your prepaid reservations by November 23rd to:  
Janet Morton  
P.O. Box 131, Carson City, NV 89702  
775-267-4589

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A-12

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F98-03

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F-17

### LAKE ARROWHEAD RENTAL

3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, fireplace, gas BBQ, balcony, washer, dryer, complete kitchen, TV, VCR, sleeps 6. Weekend \$290, holiday weekend \$395, weekly \$695, Thanksgiving \$795, holiday week \$795. Steve - (909) 428-6564.

G99-04

### GREAT GET-AWAY MISSION BAY CONDO

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A-8

### MAMMOTH LAKES CONDO.

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F-14

### VACATION PARADISE OCEAN FRONT MAUI

Maui oceanfront condo, fully equipped incl. washer/dryer, a.c. and nitely rates start at \$75 summer, \$95 winter for 2 people. Pictures on: <http://www.mauilodging.com> or call (800) 487-6002 for more information.

F-15

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A-5

### VACATION & WEEKEND RENTAL LAKE HAVASU, ARIZONA

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J99-02

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K99-01

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Oceanfront - 3 bdrm / 2 bath on beach. Wine country and whale watching. Fully furnished / sleeps up to 6. \$125 day & up. Ask for Blue Line special. Call Donna (800) 927-6163.

K99-03

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D-24

### BIG BEAR RENTAL

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D-11

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G99-01

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K99-04

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B-8

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E-22

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H99-03

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K99-02

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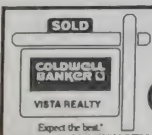
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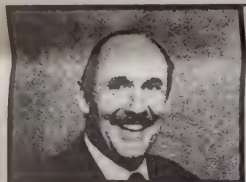
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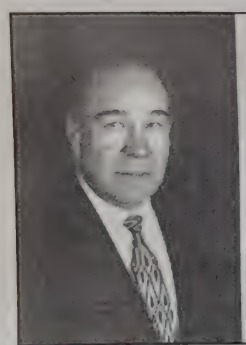
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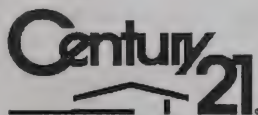
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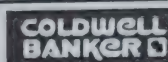
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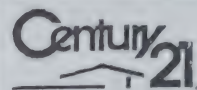
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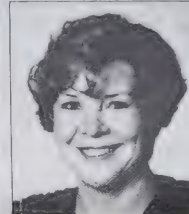
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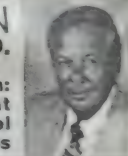
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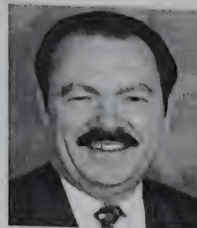


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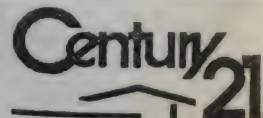


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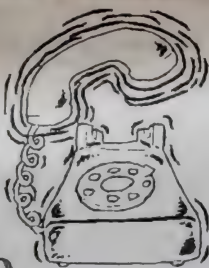
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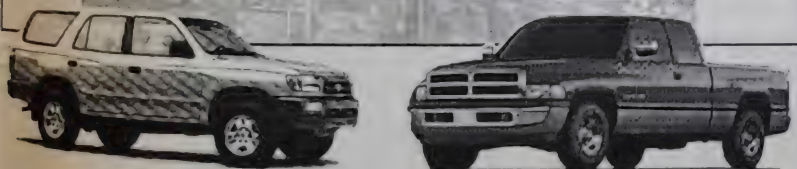
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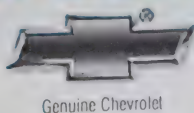
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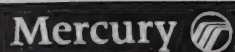
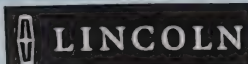
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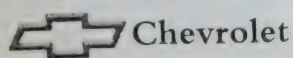


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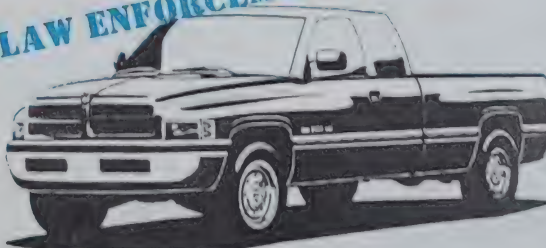
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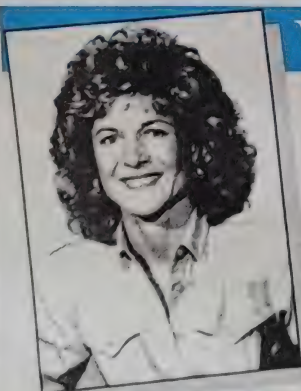
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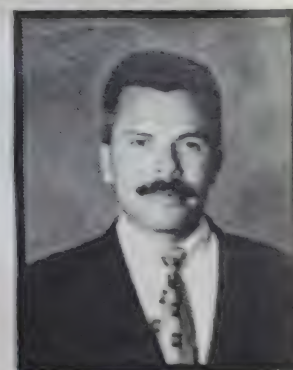
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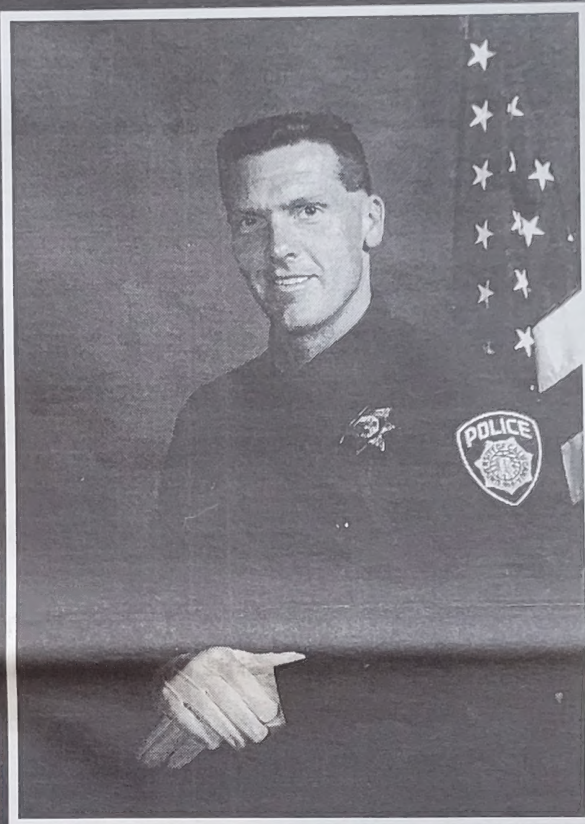
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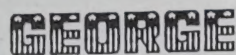
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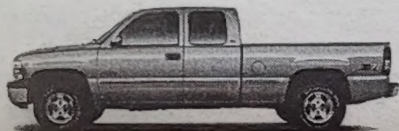


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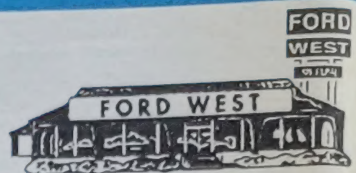
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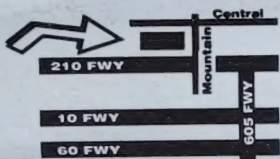


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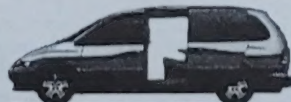


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